MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

7 JANUARY 1981

American Hostages

Following a meeting with Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, reported by PARS, Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i said that the ayatollah has "allowed us to assume the undertaking" proposed by the Algerian Government "which guaranteed to solve the crisis between Iran and the United States" over the release of the hostages. AFP reported that Algerian Ambassador to Iran Abdelkarim Ghraieb denied any change in Algeria's role as an intermediary in the negotiations.

Iran Foreign Affairs

After his meeting with Khomeyni, Prime Minister Raja'i, citing the ayatollah, announced that Iran will not attend the Islamic Conference meeting in Riyadh if Iraqi President Saddam Husayn takes part in it, PARS reported.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Tehran radio continues to report on the Iranian attack on the Gilan-e Gharb front and a new offensive around Ahvaz, including the repulsion of an Iraqi counterattack in the area. Iranian Air Force planes struck at Iraqi concentrations near Hamidiyeh and Jofeyr, the radio said, while Iranian and Iraqi artillery dueled around Abadan, Dezful, Farsiat and Darkhovin. Noting Iranian attacks on Iraqi positions at Susangerd, Ahvaz, Mehran and Gilan-e Gharb, an Iraqi General Command communique, carried by INA, said that Iraqi forces have halted and routed the attackers, killing 381 and destroying 43 tanks.

Iraq

Saddam Husayn Speech--President Saddam Husayn coupled strong praise for the Iraqi Army with a defense of his Gulf war military strategy in a speech marking the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the Iraqi Army, carried live by Baghdad radio and television. Saddam Husayn also said that Iraq "is completely ready" to return the Iranian territory it has occupied, provided Iran returns the "territory and rights" it seized to their "legitimate Arab owners." Calling the Iraqi Army a "national institution" and praising its "spirit of victory," the president said that 4 months of "brave fighting" have shown that Iraq is unwilling to tolerate "aggression, humiliation and blackmail" and that the army's victories, which "cannot be denied," have confirmed the validity of his military strategy.

Turning to other topics, the Iraqi leader claimed widespread Arab support for Iraq's position in the Gulf war and singled out Jordan for its "brave and honorable stand." Saddam Husayn went on to cite the current "Iranian rulers" as "fully responsible" for the conflict but reiterated Iraq's willingness "to solve the problems between us and Iran" through various international organizations as long as such negotiations lead to a peaceful settlement that recognizes Arab rights and are "free of any form of foreign intervention."

Defense Minister Assessment--Defense Minister Staff Gen 'Adnan Khayrallah, in remarks to the newspaper ATH-THAWRAH cited by INA, said that Iraq has achieved a "distinct superiority" in the Gulf war and is improving its military "balance" among its armor, artillery and infantry forces. While claiming that the Iranian Army has done its duty in defending the country, the defense minister called on Iran's military leaders to confront the "reactionary policies of the Tehran rulers" and to understand the "clear and simple" Iraqi conditions for a peaceful settlement.

Libya-Chad

A joint communique on Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei's visit to Libya, carried textually by Tripoli radio, states that Libya and Chad have agreed to work toward the "complete unity" of the two countries. It also states that, in accordance with the joint defense treaty of June 1980, Libya "will send a number of military men to assist in keeping security and maintaining peace" in Chad.

Libya

A closed session of the General People's Congress, reported by Tripoli radio's Voice of Arab Homeland, announced wide-ranging ministerial appointments. New secretaries for internal affairs and external liaison were announced. Following a proposal by the congress secretary for the establishment of a secretariat for atmoic energy for peaceful purposes, the congress decided to set up an advanced center for atomic research and appointed engineer 'Abd al-Majid al-Qa'ud as secretary for atomic energy.

Egypt

President Anwar as-Sadat has carried out a limited Cabinet reshuffle. The Jerusalem POST earlier alleged that As-Sadat was considering a major reshuffle to thwart a challenge for power by Vice President Husni Mubarak. Cairo radio reported that the government banned the Jerusalem POST correspondent responsible for the article from reentering Egypt. Minister of State for Culture and Information Mansur Hasan summoned Israeli Ambassador Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, Jerusalem radio reported, expressing Egypt's disappointment with the Israeli newspaper article. The radio said that in the meeting the two decided to find an appropriate way to handle the issue and lift the ban on the Jerusalem POST reporter.

Israel

Jerusalem radio reported that following a request by Prime Minister Menahem Begin for further meetings to achieve a compromise in the dispute over teachers' salaries, Finance Minister Yiga'el Hurvitz suspended his letter of resignation until a final decision is reached. However, at the end of his meeting with Begin and Education Minister Zvulun Hammer, Hurvitz said although he wants the Begin government to continue, its existence will no longer be justified if no effort is made to settle his disagreement with Hammer.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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ISLAMIC SUMMIT TO VIEW USSR ROLE IN AFGHANISTAN

LD060947 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 3 Jan 81 p 1

["Exclusive" report: "Islamic Summit To Discuss Expulsion of Soviets from Afghanistan"]

[Text] 'UKAZ has learned that the working paper to be submitted to the third Islamic summit concerning the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan includes the following points:

Reviewing the work of the first extraordinary session held by the Islamic foreign ministers at the end of January 1980 in Islamabad following the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan on 27 December 1979. At this session the foreign ministers adopted a resolution calling for the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan and suspended Afghanistan's membership of the Islamic Conference Organization.

Reviewing the outcome of the work of the ad hoc committee set up by the 11th Islamic foreign ministers conference in May 1980 consisting of the Pakistani and Iranian foreign ministers and the general secretary of the Islamic Conference Organization.

PALESTINIAN DELEGATION LEAVES FOR AMMAN MEETING

NC051656 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 5 Jan 81

[Text] The Palestinian-Jordanian committee for supporting the steadfastness of the Palestinian people inside the occupied territories began its meetings in Amman today. The committee will study projects fostered by the municipal and rural councils and various institutions of the West Bank and Gaza in the social, agricultural, educational and health fields.

Brother Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief and member of the Fatah Central Committee; Brothers 'Abd ar-Rahim Ahmad and 'Abd al-Muhsin Abulmayzat, members of the PLO Executive Committee and Brother Hani al-Hasan, member of the Fatah Central Committee, left today for Amman to join the Palestinian side in the meetings, led by Brother Hamid Abu Sittah, member of the PLO Executive Committee.

YASIR 'ARAFAT RECEIVES U.S. PROFESSORS 3 JAN

NC040804 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0645 GMT 4 Jan 81

[Text] Yesterday evening Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] received a delegation of 26 U.S. university professors. The delegation is on a fact-finding mission to learn the latest developments in the Palestinian situation and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The delegation is being hosted by the Palestinian revolution and the PLO. It visited various Palestinian revolution establishments and positions in southern Lebanon and participated in the revolution ceremonies on its anniversary. The brother commander in chief briefed the delegation on the latest developments in the Middle East and answered their questions.

BAHRAIN

PRIME MINISTER RECEIVES EDWARD HEATH 6 JAN

JN061116 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1020 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text2 Manama, 6 Jan (GNA)--Bahraini Prime Minister His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah received former British Prime Minister Edward Heath at noon today. Heath is visiting Manama as part of a tour of several Arab countries.

The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah and British Ambassador to Manama Harold Walker. [name and title as received]

PAPER COMMENTS ON KISSINGER'S MIDEAST TOUR

GF061634 Manama AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 6 Jan 81 p 4

[Untitled editorial]

[Text] When former U.S. Secretary of State Dr Henry Kissinger arrived in the Middle East a few days ago he did not come--as was claimed prior to his departure from Washington--merely on a factfinding mission, but he came with a specific objective in mind that he seeks to achieve. Dr Kissinger did not give anyone the chance to speculate about the objective he is seeking to achieve, for he himself set about explaining it through the statements he has been making in the countries he has visited so far. From these statements it clearly emerges that Kissinger's objective is to complete the task he took upon himself immediately after the October war: to totally destroy the Arab cause.

Conditions after the October 1973 war were very ripe for a comprehensive solution that would restore to the Arabs their rights. The majority of the countries of the world--perhaps with the only exception of the United States and Israel--were pressing for such a solution. Then Kissinger appeared in the Middle East. He proposed the trick of separate agreements for the disengagement of forces. He was encouraged at the time by the fact that an Arab party consented to his proposal. He immediately embarked on implementing his plot through which he planted the seek of separate solution in the area, thus spliting the common cause, driving a wedge among the Arabs and paving the way for the Jerusalem trip [of As-Sadat], Camp David and the separate Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty.

Kissinger is now coming back to complete the task of obliterating the Arab cause and the Palestinian people's rights, and diluting them in an area the size of the whole world. He said in occupied Jerusalem yesterday: One cannot understand the Middle East conflict unless one places it within the framework of the conflict between East and West, or the conflict between the two superpowers.

Thus Kissinger wants to convince us that the cause of the Middle East tragedy is not Zionism's usurpation of Palestine in 1948 and the dispersion of its people, not Israel's occupation of vast Arab territories in 1967, not Israel's expansionist policy of aggression toward Lebanon, and not the suppression of the Arabs in the occupied territories and the violation of their most elementary human rights--the cause is nothing of the sort, and Israel is maligned, for the real cause of our tragedy is the East-West conflict.

Thus Kissinger wants simply to nullify the fact represented in the presence of a Zionist conspiracy, and consequently he seeks to nullify the Arabs' demands for their lands and legitimate rights.

As Kissinger may have succeeded in implementing the first phase of his task after the October war, experience calls on us to be extremely alert so as to foil his attempt to implement the second phase.

QATAR

NETHERLANDS FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES 4 JAN

JN041842 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1825 GMT 4 Jan 81

[Text] Doha, 4 Jan (GNA)--Netherlands Foreign Minister Christoph van der Klaauw arrived in Doha from Kuwait this evening on a visit of several days to Qatar. The visit is part of his tour of a number of states in the region.

The Netherlands foreign minister will hold talks with Qatari officials on the Middle East issue, finding an urgent solution to the problem and Europe's role in this regard. The minister will also discuss European-Arab relations.

Meeting With Amir

JN051200 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1100 GMT 5 Jan 81

[Text] Doha, 5 Jan (GNA)--Qatari Amir Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani received here today Netherlands Foreign Minister Christoph van der Klaauw, who is currently visiting Doha. During the meeting the Netherlands minister and the Qatari amir reviewed the European viewpoint on the Middle East issue and the proposed solutions within the framework of the European initiative. The two sides also discussed other subjects of mutual interest.

His Highness Shaykh Khalifah asserted to the Netherlands minister, in his capacity as chairman of the EEC ministerial council, the necessity of recognizing the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people. His highness pointed out that a delay in solving this issue exposes world peace to the greatest danger.

6 Jan Departure

JN060750 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0700 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] Doha, 6 Jan (GNA)--Netherlands Foreign Minister Christoph van der Klaauw and the members of his delegation left Doha this morning for home via Paris following a 2-day visit to Qatar. During this visit the Netherlands minister reviewed with Qatari officials the European viewpoint on the Middle East question and the solutions proposed within the European initiative. Other issues of mutual concern, especially increasing cooperation between the two countries, were also discussed during this visit.

UAE

RA'S AL-KHAYMAH LEADER COMMENTS ON GULF ISLANDS

GF031438 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 3 Jan 81 pp 1, 3

[Text] Shaykh Khalid ibn Saqr al-Qasimi, the crown prince and deputy ruler of Ra's al-Khaymah, has hoped that 1981 will be a year of year of Arab solidarity and of peace and understanding among the nations of the world.

In an interview with KHALEEJ TIMES, Shaykh Khalid said: "We look forward to our state moving forward under the leadership of our president to achieve the aspirations of our people for prosperity and success." To this end, he added, "the time is ripe to introduce the permanent constitutions." It would be to the advantage of every national who was concerned over the best interests of his country and mindful of its progress.

The crown prince suggested that the supreme council should hold regular meetings. "Consultations and communications between their highnesses the members of the supreme council are continually taking place on various issues that are of interest to the state," he said. "But despite these frequent consultations, it is necessary that the supreme council should hold regular and official meetings on general state policy," he added.

Shaykh Khalid spoke about the importance of educating the nation's youth. "The progress of the state depends upon informing the young," he said, "and we should not forget to remind the education departments of their duties and responsibility. The instruction should be Arabic as well as Islamic, and in addition it should make our sons aware of their country, society and history. It should reinforce the faith of the coming generation in Islam and Arab nationality."

About restoration of the three islands, Abu Musa and Greater and Lesser Tunbs, usurped by Iran, Shaykh Khalid said, "We are supporting our Foreign Ministry in its continuous efforts in demanding the restoration to our country of these purely Arab islands." In this context he said, "We should remember to praise the role played by Iraq under President Saddam Husayn in reinforcing the UAE's claim to its territorial rights." Acknowledging the current deterioration in the Middle East situation, Shaykh Khalid said: "We Arabs should not feel ashamed of ourselves or of our present situation, which we do not wish upon ourselves." He said that Arabs should be aware that their enemies wished them ill, and took pleasure in their misfortune. "We should therefore face the situation by avoiding disputes, differences and damage caused by the problem of being 21 separate Arab states," he said. Shaykh Khalid hailed the efforts of His Majesty King Khalid and Crown Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia, in setting up the Islamic summit conference, due to be held shortly in Mecca. He hoped the results of the conference would be fruitful for all Arabs and Muslims. Secondary disputes should be set aside in favor of solidarity and total cooperation, to confront the mutual enemy, Zionism, and to restore the Arab territories usurped by Israel to their rightful owners.

In addition the leaders should use their influence to put an end to the dispute between Iraq and Iran, restoring to each country its own rights.

"Undoubtedly, when we put the Arab world's interest above every other consideration," said Shaykh Khalid, "we will overcome all the problems and surmount the whole dispute. That responsibility should be borne by Arab leaders and by all those with official responsibilities in the Arab states."

KISSINGER TOUR PAVES WAY FOR MILITARY MOVE

JN050901 Abu Dhabi ENA in Arabic 0734 GMT 5 Jan 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 5 Jan (ENA)--In a dispatch by its correspondent in Kuwait, the paper AL-KHALIJ today says that reliable diplomatic sources in the Gulf area have asserted that Henry Kissinger's current tour, particularly his visits to Egypt and Somalia, aims at preparing for a U.S. military operation in which U.S. forces will occupy the southern parts of Iran to put pressure on Iran to release U.S. hostages.

AL-FAJR COMMENTARY ON KISSINGER'S MIDEAST TOUR

GF062010 Abu Dhabi AL-FAJR in Arabic 5 Jan 81 p 1

[Unattributed article]

[Text] What is former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger searching for in the region these days? First, and before answering this question, we must assert some facts that will help identify the nature of Kissinger's new mission in the Middle East. The first of these facts is that Kissinger's return to the region is linked to the return of the Republicans to administering U.S. domestic and foreign policies in the world. Thus Kissinger's tour is done for Reagan's administration and for its upcoming operations in the region.

The second fact is that the returning U.S. envoy--given his experience in the affairs of the region and his political skill--at the present time--just like the administration which sent him--has no ready-made plan which he seeks to implement nor a finely-made conspiracy which he intends to carry out. However, at the same time, the U.S. envoy carries with him the basic principles on which U.S. policy is based and which crystallizes the U.S. political, economic and strategic interests in the region. These principles of U.S. interests in the region have been defended and safeguarded by the succession of the various administrations and the succession of U.S. envoys to the region from as high as presidents to senators and secretaries of state.

Precisely, this means that we are facing a U.S. envoy who is well aware of U.S. political interests in the Middle East and who has a great deal of experience in Middle Eastern affairs, which qualified him to hold the position of U.S. secretary of state and still qualifies him to serve this policy in the upcoming new era.

So, what does the new tour of the old U.S. envoy represent? The answer to this question calls for a review of the political developments in the region during the Carter era, during which Carter and the Democrats were in charge of drawing and implementing U.S. policy in the region. That era is very closely linked to the era that preceded it and during which Kissinger held a distinguished position within the Republican governing team, and played an important role in rearranging the Arab-Israeli conflict following the October war to the position confirming the U.S. and Zionist interests in the Middle East, while at the same time weakening the Arab stand in confrontation with Israel.

During the Carter era, the Democrats benefited from the achievements of the Republicans and dealt with the facts available to them in a manner that contributed to tightening their control of the region and to concluding the Camp David agreements and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty. This treaty, which was the Democrats' great achievement, divided the Arab stand against Israel into two main parts: The first lost all the bases of disagreeing with or contradicting U.S. and Zionist interests, and thus has become a support for all the policies defending these interests. The other part was shocked by the situation which, in addition to the ever-continuing developments, increased its internal disarray. However, this half is still struggling to preserve a homogenous front that is capable of confronting U.S. and Zionist policies.

Now, only a few days before the new U.S. team assumes its task of safeguarding U.S. interests in the Middle East and other regions of the world, the new administration realizes the need to detect the extent of change in U.S. policy during the era of the Democrats and to feel out Arab relations and to discover their disagreements within or without the Camp David bloc. However, it is certain that the new administration considers the previous achievements to be a good thing that should be protected and strengthened.

PDRY

ANA COMMENTARY ON KISSINGER SOMALIA VISIT CITED

LD041758 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 3 Jan 81 EA

[Text] ADEN NEWS AGENCY has described the statements by Henry Kissinger, the former U.S. secretary of state and now adviser to U.S. President-elect Ronald Reagan, at the end of his visit to Somalia--in which he announced that the United States regards the Horn of Africa, the Gulf and the Peninsula as a region vital to it and said it will work to increase its military presence in the Red Sea region and the Horn of Africa--as an expression of the hostile intentions of the United States and its strategy in the region during the coming phase.

This came today in a statement by the ANA political commentator in which he pointed out that Kissinger's statements constitute a serious threat to security and stability in the region and must be regarded at the same time as a (?clear) expression of the policy of disrespect for the freedom of peoples and their right to choose the method of their construction and development in an independent manner.

The agency's political commentator added that these hostile statements come in the face of the efforts being made by the regions peoples and all peace-loving peoples to preserve peace and stability in this region as a natural extension of peace in the Indian Ocean, and thus confirm the antipeace policy, the heightening of tension and the igniting of wars practised by the United States. He said that these dangerous statements by Kissinger, which come now the U.S. administration of President [-elect] Reagan has given him a new lease on life, are a further extension of his coordinated political history, for he earlier directed U.S. foreign policy--namely that of spreading discord and planting mines [as heard]--and of his being a man experienced in the general lines of the aggressive policy of U.S. imperialism.

The agency' commentator said Kissinger's return in this flagrant manner to the stage of world events and his making of such statements clearly confirm that one of the most important and immediate objectives of Reagan's administration is to (?escalate) and deepen Arab differences and give the treacherous Camp David accords fresh blood to continue their course of betrayal and violation of the rights of the Palestinian people. These statements come in the very core [word indistinct] of imperialism in this region and the Horn of Africa.

The commentator stressed that U.S. policy and military presence are sources of concern and instability in the region, pointing out the dangers threatening it represented by the Camp David accords, the repression of the struggling Palestinian people, the confrontation with the rest of the Arab peoples and the deployment of U.S. military forces and bases in the Indian Ocean, the Gulf and the Horn of Africa.

The ANA commentator in this regard referred to the presence of U.S. military forces in Egypt, Oman and Somalia, affirming that the security and stability of the Horn of Africa, the Red Sea, the Gulf and the Peninsula are cherished rights of the peoples the region, who are capable of protecting themselves, deterring aggression and maintaining their national sovereignty and options. They will continue their struggle against U.S. aggressive policy, which supports a Zionist presence as well as the policy of Henry Kissinger, As-Sadat's bosom friend.

The agency's commentator praised in this context the Soviet initiative, which is in harmony with the interests of the peoples of the region, and stressed the importance of making the Indian Ocean, the Gulf and the Peninsula a region of peace, as well as the need not to interfere in internal affairs and to respect the sovereignty of the states and peoples of the region and to refrain from introducing nuclear or other weapons into this region. The commentator stressed the importance of this initiative and the need to give it prominence and actual implementation to ensure the security, safety and stability of the region, as well as to secure it against the specter of imperialist intervention and the plunder of its resources and wealth.

The commentator emphasized that Democratic Yemen has frequently warned against the evil intentions of U.S. imperialism and has exposed all its suspect moves and dirty maneuvers in this region. It has frequently stressed that the Indian Ocean and its extensions such as the Red Sea as well as the Gulf, the Peninsula and the Horn of Africa, should be kept as a region of peace and that cooperation should prevail among its peoples.

The ANA political commentator concluded his statement by emphasizing that the feverish activities of Henry Kissinger, President-elect Reagan's adviser on the region, would be confronted by the unshakable will of peoples determined not to involve their region in the conflagrations which Reagan's administration is aspiring to ignite so that its flames will consume the resources and the wealth of the peoples and abort the struggles of the Arab national liberation movements and the youthful regimes.

BRIEFS

NEW QNA DIRECTOR--Mr 'Ali Sa'id al-Kawari, assistant director of the QATARI NEWS AGENCY, has been appointed director and editor in chief of the agency. [Text] [Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 4 Jan 81 p 5 GF]

SAUDI AID TO TURKEY--The Islamic Development Bank has granted the Turkish Industrial Development Bank 3.585 million Islamic dinars, or about $4.752 million, as a contribution to two Turkish industrial companies. [Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 5 Jan 81 GF]

PDRY ENVOY TO USSR--Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Peoples Assembly and of the Council of Ministers, today issued an order of the Presidium appointing a PDRY ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the USSR. The first article provides for the appointment of Brother Abdullah Ahmad Bukayr as PDRY ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the USSR. The remaining articles provide for the cancellation of any previous appointment to this post, the implementation of the order from the date of issue and its publication in the official gazette. [Text] [Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 5 Jan 81 EA]

AS-SADAT RESHUFFLES CABINET, GOALS REPORTED

NC061924 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1917 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] Cairo, 6 Jan (MENA)--President Anwar as-Sadat has decided to carry out a limited Cabinet reshuffle. The reshuffle includes the appointment of Fu'ad Kamal Husayn as minister of state for finance and Dr Sulayman Nur ad-Din as minister of state for economy. Mansur Hasan will be appointed as minister of state for presidential affairs in addition to his post as minister of state for culture and information.

AL-AHRAM on Goals

NC062141 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2116 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] Cairo, 6 Jan (MENA)--AL-AHRAM says in its Wednesday edition that the limited cabinet reshuffle, which was carried out in Egypt today, sought two objectives:

The paper explains that the first objective was to appoint two ministers of state for financial and economic affairs to participate in the implementation of the plans which Deputy Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Razzaq 'Abd al-Majid will draw up in the light of the policy of the government and the National Democratic Party.

The second objective, the paper says, is that Mansur Hasan should assume the duties of the republic's presidency as assistant to the president of the republic and the vice president in addition to the other party and political duties which will be assigned to him while keeping his post as the minister of state for culture and information.

FAHMI ARTICLE OPPOSES U.S., USSR MILITARY PRESENCE

LD070931 Cairo ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 31 Dec 80 pp 6, 7, 11

[Article by former Foreign Minister Isma'il Fahmi: "Why Is This Happening and In Whose Interest Is It? Where Will the New Commitments Lead Us?"]

[Excerpts] In a previous article I discussed several issues directly related to Egyptian national security and I briefly touched upon the current question, namely that of military bases or what are being called military facilities. I feel that this is a serious question that needs to be explained to the Egyptian people so they will be aware of what is going on on their land and so they can absorb events, especially those affecting their destiny.

Why is all this happening and in whose interest, and where will the new commitments lead us? Are we required or being lured to enter new Western labyrinths and plans far removed from the desired peace and security which the people were told would be the new dawn under which they would live--no war and no sufferings after 30 years of endurance and sacrifice by the Egyptian people.

Classic Bases and Military Facilities

The difference between bases in the well-known classical sense and the modern concept of military bases, that is military facilities; it is known that military bases in the old classical sense existed under foreign colonialism. They are distinct military areas occupied by a foreign colonialist state on the territory of another country, the colonized country. This used to be achieved by force in order to impose foreign will and domination on the colonized country and its people.

In the old days the principal objective of bases was to protect the interests of the colonizing power in the colonized state, most important of which involves exploiting the colonized people and their resources and also doing away with their political rights and their right to make their own decisions.

But the concept of bases in the modern age, particularly since the old colonialism has receded, has changed drastically and so has the purpose and tasks for which such bases are established. Also the military structure of such bases has changed. While in the past they were fixed bases for specific purpose and their effectiveness was limited to the objective for which they were established, we find that since traditional colonialism has receded there has been an important development in the concept of such bases and a radical development in their military structure. This is something natural, for there is no longer a colonialist state and a colonized state in the traditional sense. Therefore, the traditional military bases have been replaced by what is known in the modern age, the age of technology and rapid movement, as mobile military facilities or transportable and highly mobile [forces] whether in attack or retreat.

Therefore, the term bases has changed to facilities because the principal objective is to achieve rapid deployment, high mobility and the ability to pounce on other peoples or countries. Both superpowers have developed this new-old type of base and both have obtained land, sea and air facilities and services so that both can achieve the greatest possible deployment in the most extensive strategic spheres. All this is now taking place between the two superpowers so that each can ensure for itself the desired balance and achieve the desired political results.

A country allowing its territories, seas or skies to be used by the military forces of one of the two superpowers for the purpose of pouncing on other countries or peoples will have involved itself in a serious game and will have obviously abandoned the principle of nonalignment with either of the two superpowers. A state that gets involved in a serious game like this will be endangering its people, territories and interests in the event of aggression by one of the superpowers against a third state as a result of allowing one of the superpowers to be present on its territories and to use its facilities and resources in aggression against or a clash with a third party.

Suppose that Syria, South Yemen or Libya gave facilities to the Soviet Union and the latter used these facilities for aggression against or interference in Egypt or even in one of the countries that Egypt considers a vital sphere, such as Sudan, then in this case it would be the natural duty of the political command in Egypt to strike back violently at the principal source of aggression from which the aggression against Egypt or Sudan came and to strike at the facilities from which the aggression was launched. This might or might not happen. But if it happened I do not think that the Soviet Union would consult the Yemeni, Libyan or Syrian people or even consult the commands of these countries or share with them the secrets of the Soviet strategic plans. The result would be that the loser in this case would be Syria, Yemen and Libya and their losses would be great.

If by the same token we imagine U.S. air, land and sea forces pouncing from Egypt on a Gulf state for legitimate or illegitimate reasons, whether in order to protect these states or to protect some of their regimes against a coup or merely because the United States suddenly decides that the Gulf states constitute a vital sphere for it--and I pray to God none of this will happen--the Gulf states could then ask for military aid in order to strike at the place from which the aggression emanated, in which case Egypt and the Egyptian people would be the losers because of both the human and material losses they would suffer.

Is this rational? Is this what we want? Is this Egypt's role?

My assumption is that Egypt does not wish to play this role either directly or indirectly, regardless of the excuses. More important still Egypt, regardless of the terminologies and categories, can only pursue the right course; Egypt will not accept for itself what it does not accept for others; Egypt does not accept the use of its land, waters or skies for intervention, let alone aggression, against another Arab state or people.

Peaceful Egypt will not once again get involved in wars and their dangers except in extreme cases, specifically in the case of aggression against Egyptian land, seas or skies or Egypt's vital air space or a vital sphere such as sisterly Sudan.

To every action there is a reaction. Politics, especially war and peace, are not a simple matter or a matter of good will or of any other attractive terminologies and synonyms that fill the political dictionaries. We should not, for example, believe that opening Egyptian skies, seas and lands to the U.S. mobile bases will automatically prevent other Arab countries such as Libya, Syria or others from giving mobile bases to the Soviet Union regardless of the legality or the pretext under which these are given. I say once again that to every action there is a reaction. Therefore, why have we gone so far in this direction? I do not preclude the possibility and, indeed, I expect Libya to give the Soviet Union the same facilities. Rapid deployment there is a serious matter particularly because Libya represents the strategic depth for Egypt and is now in control of Chad, control that did not come about by relying on its own forces alone. By controlling Chad the geopolitical map west of Egypt has begun to take on a new shape because of the fact that Chad and Sudan have common borders. If a further deployment takes place southwards Sudan will be endangered. Sudan, as is known, has common borders with Ethiopia and is involved in a new flirtation with it. Thus it can clearly be seen what risks we will be taking if we escalate or are the direct cause for escalating the situation between the two superpowers.

By the same token, one can observe that the situation in Syria is developing at a stunning speed toward escalation and enforced total reliance on the Soviet Union. Therefore I do not exclude the possibility and indeed would expect the Syrian command, if the question of the mobile military bases in Egypt develops further, to open its country to the Soviet Union so that it will be a mobile base for the Soviet Union not in order to expel the Israeli occupation but to counter the new U.S. mobile bases in the area.

There is no better proof of what I say than President Brezhnev's statement during his visit to India. For the first time we find President Brezhnev, as a result of the U.S. theory of setting up mobile U.S. forces to defend the Gulf, proposing five points to preserve Gulf security. This political-military statement coming from the Soviet command for the first time was greeted by different reactions ranging from support to expressions of suspicion. But what is most important is that this serious development came as a natural and direct result of the U.S. plan to establish mobile military forces to defend U.S. interests in the Gulf states, or more precisely the oil.

I do not think that it is in the interest of Egypt or would serve Egyptian security to escalate the presence of the two superpowers in the area in any form or under any pretext. It makes absolutely no difference if it is a presence in accordance with a contract or an agreement. I am against the presence of the two superpowers in this area and particularly in Egypt in any form and under any pretext.

Generally, if a danger is internal we must deal with it ourselves by reforming our affairs, building our institutions and letting the people have their say under a truly democratic regime.

But if it is an external danger we must prepare ourselves for it by maintaining and soundly developing our armed forces along modern lines and we must also join the Arab Gulf countries and other countries so we can work together to develop the Arab armies and capabilities and raise the standard of our armed forces which is a vital thing, a national duty and a national demand whether there is war or peace.

SOMALI DEFENSE MINISTER ARRIVES IN CAIRO 6 JAN

NC061431 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1400 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] Cairo, 6 Jan (MENA)--Lt Gen Mohamed Ali Samantar, Somali vice president and defense minister, arrived in Cairo today on a visit of several days to Egypt. Defense Minister Lt Gen Ahmad Badawi and the Somali ambassador in Cairo received the guest on arrival.

MENA has learned that the Somali vice president is carrying a message from Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre to President Anwar as-Sadat on the latest developments on the borders between Somalia and Ethiopia. MENA has also learned that Lieutenant General Samantar will hold military talks with Lt Gen Ahmad Badawi, minister of defense and war production, within the framework of military cooperation between the two countries. They will also discuss ways to achieve a military balance in the Horn of Africa.

OPPOSITION LEADER ASH-SHADHILI INTERVIEWED

GF031415 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 30 Dec 80 p 17

[Report from AL-QABAS correspondent in Damascus Khalil at-Taqi on interview with Egyptian Patriotic Front Secretary General Lt Gen Sa'd ad-Din ash-Shadhili]

[Excerpts] Lt Gen Sa'd ad-Din ash-Shadhili said to Al-QABAS: The Patriotic Front is in constant and continuous contact with all patriotic elements and organizations inside Arab Egypt. We, as a patriotic front, help and encourage the organization and growth of such bodies because we are certain that the Egyptian regime can be brought down only by the people inside Egypt. We are the struggling extension of patriotic organizations and forces growing and spreading inside Egypt, and to whom we are closely linked. The organizational and coordination processes between the interior and the exterior are perfect.

The commanders, officers and soldiers of the Egyptian Armed Forces are most aware of As-Sadat's deceit of the great Arab people of Egypt. They know well the difference between facilities and the bases As-Sadat has offered the United States. They know well that As-Sadat deceives the Egyptian people when he said the United States has given Egypt advanced arms because they know that As-Sadat received only samples. Samples are not important; what is important is the quantity and quality of arms and missiles given to As-Sadat. This is the real question and the officers know the truth, the whole truth. Thus they are the ones most affected and most prepared to get rid of As-Sadat's regime that is allied with those who have been traditional enemies of Arabism and Islam since the dawn of history. As the armed forces are part of the people, their movement must be linked to the people's movement. We are confident that the army's patriotism will not permit its officers and soldiers to be used by As-Sadat to suppress the popular movements which will inevitably take place in the future and get rid of this regime.

Referring to the expectations of some on the influence of the U.S. president-elect's administration on the future of the Camp David agreements, Ash-Shadhili said: I do not expect a change in U.S. policy. U.S. policy is not drawn by the U.S. president or a particular party; rather it is a fixed strategy.

I do not expect U.S. policy to be any better. I believe the United States will not change its policy unless the Arabs force it to change by using their resources. Up to this moment we cannot say the Arabs have used their resources in pressing the United States.

If the Arab countries pressure the United States, especially as regards oil, and the United States feels its friendship with and support for Israel will cost it a great deal, it may then change its policy no matter who resides in the White House, the Democrats or the Republicans. Thus any change in U.S. policy is linked to the nature of the Arab stand and attitude and not to the change of the U.S. president.

The secretary general of the Egyptian Patriotic Front denied foreign news agency reports that the front has plans to form an Egyptian government-in-exile. Ash-Shadhili said: We are not thinking of forming a government-in-exile at present. All we need is to develop the front's activity in the interior because the Patriotic Front, as is already known, consists of bodies and parties inside and outside Egypt. In our opinion, the home front is the base. As everyone knows, the opposition in Egypt faces suppressive measures such as deportation and imprisonment. For this reason we have been trying to concentrate on the development of the pattern of activities inside and outside Egypt rather than thinking of forming an Egyptian government-in-exile.

Lieutenant General ash-Shadhili concluded his comprehensive statement to AL-QABAS by saying: It is possible that the Egyptian Patriotic Front will join the Steadfastness and Confrontation National Front since it is an Arab nationalist body that reinforces the front's confrontation of the Camp David alliance and works to bring down the As-Sadat regime and what it stands for. The upcoming session of the Steadfastness and Confrontation National Front countries may witness our front joining. We will work with the rest of the Arab brothers to achieve victory and liberation, God willing.

AL-JUMHURIYAH CRITICIZES 'ARAFAT AFGHAN POLICIES

NC070804 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 7 Jan 81

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Palestinian Revolution and the Afghan Forces," AL-JUMHURIYAH writes: The day before yesterday the Soviet news agency TASS pledged to give the Arabs and Muslims all over the world the chance to make a comparison between what Egypt is doing for Arab and Islamic issues and what those who are accusing Egypt of betraying Arab and Islamic issues are doing for these very issues. The paper says that, at a time when the Egyptian People's Assembly was the scene of the most spectacular display of national and Islamic support for the struggle of the Islamic Afghan people against the Soviet invasion, TASS reported that the leader of the Palestine revolution, and the PLO, Yasir 'Arafat, received a message from the Soviet stooge in Afghanistan, Karmal, who had asked the Soviets to invade his country and prop up his government. This mere report was enough to reveal the shameful side of what is happening in the Arab arena.

The paper adds that Yasir 'Arafat, who is calling himself the leader of the Palestine revolution, has--together with his revolution--thrown his support behind revolution throughout the world. He and his revolution have always strived to achieve what they refer to as a cohesion with the people's revolutions against anything hinting at foreign suppression. The paper asks: Why, then, is the revolution of the Islamic Afghan people against the Soviet invasion the only revolution which 'Arafat is depriving of his support? More than that, he is expressing his friendship to Karmal, the executioner of the Afghan people. The paper goes on: The painful answer is that Yasir 'Arafat, who has stood together with his revolution under the protective umbrella of the Soviets and who has extolled the Kremlin's leaders to the skies, has lost his sense of proportion with regard to revolutions. Thus, any revolution in the world merits his approval--on condition that it is not against the Soviets.

The paper denounces the Palestinian revolution and Yasir 'Arafat for allowing himself to be in the same trench with a well-known Soviet stooge named Babrak Karmal. Therefore, when the two ['Arafat and Karmal] exchange messages of friendship, the TASS news agency is the first to report this exchange. Is this what the Palestinian revolutionaries really want?

SADDAM HUSAYN'S ARMY DAY ADDRESS TO NATION

JN061917 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1605 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text of address to nation by President Saddam Husayn on the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the Iraqi Army broadcast in linkup with Baghdad television and other Baghdad radio stations--live]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate: Oh great people. Oh comrades in arms of the brave armed forces. Oh masses of the glorious Arab nation. The day 6 January is a dear national occasion. The army is the symbol, tool and basic weapon of independence and sovereignty. The army is the symbol of national dignity and honor and, over the past 60 years of its glorious history, our army fully represented such a symbol. Despite the colonialist control over Iraq for dozens of years and the rife corruption in the ruling departments during various reigns, and despite the efforts of various regimes to use the Iraqi Army as a tool of suppression in order to protect their reactionary, dictatorial and corrupt rule, the Iraqi Army remained a national institution, true to its principles and pan-Arab goals and true to the moral and militant values and the chivalry that is deep-rooted in the Arab nation's history. Whenever it had the opportunity, the Iraqi Army always openly and vehemently expressed its alliance with the people and its desire to achieve freedom and independence and to offer sacrifices for pan-Arab and national causes. It was no accident, therefore, that the 17 July 1968 revolution led by the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party depended on the brave Iraq Army as one of its main pillars.

The moral and ideological constitution of the Iraqi Army, its genuine ties with the Arab and Islamic heritage and its strong desire for independence, pride and dignity have found in the Ba'th Party's principles and in the party's march of struggle their true expression and honest embodiment. Therefore, the Ba'th Party had widespread influence among the ranks of the Iraqi Army during the fifties and following the July revolution in 1958. After the 17 July 1968 revolution, the Iraqi Army found that the principles and hopes to which it had aspired since its establishment had been achieved by this revolution, at the hands of its leading party. Within just a few years the army truly and confidently became a people's army, a revolution's army and a Ba'th army. A unique experiment had been achieved in the Arab revolutionary movement and in the revolutions of the Third World. It is the army of the Ba'th and the army of the people. This is a true and well-established fact, which cannot be achieved through coercion but through an agreement in spirit, hopes and targets, both during the march of struggle before the revolution and through the march of construction and greatness afterward.

Under the July revolution and the Ba'th Party, the traits of the Iraqi Army materialized and assumed deep dimensions. The army attained the power, progress and dignity to which it had aspired for many years. The battle waged by our heroic army today on the eastern flank of the Arab homeland is a great expression of this profound relationship realized among the nation, the people, the party, the army and the leadership. Today, the army does not only fight as a military establishment which executes orders within the rules of military discipline; it fights with the hearts and arms of its men full of the spirit of the nation, of the people and their principles. The army fights as if each officer and man in it is the whole of Iraq, the whole of the Iraqi people and the whole of the revolution's principles. They fight as if each one of them is Khalid, Sa'd, Al-Muthanna, Tariq, Al-Qa'qa' and Salah ad-Din. [names of Arab Islamic heroes]

Four months of brave fighting have proven the true nature of this great army. Our army has established itself as a truly heroic, great and capable army. The commanders, officers and men went to the battlefronts with one general goal: to prove that the Arab nation is a good, capable nation,which will not tolerate aggression, humiliation and blackmail. With their bravery, efficiency and dear sacrifices they have proven that the Arab territory is no longer a common property for others to attack, or parts of which can be usurped.

They have also proven that Iraq is a strong unit that cannot be harmed by anyone, regardless of means and methods of deception and delusion. They have proven that when Iraq's land, honor and dignity are jeopardized, the Iraqi turns into a strong sword and a will of steel in the face of the usurping aggressor, whoever he might be.

All of the Arab nation's enemies, including the colonialists, Zionists and racist Persians, have always tried to take battles inside the Arab homeland. However, our valiant army in Iraq managed, for the first time in contemporary history and after hundreds of years of defeats inflicted on our nation, to take the battle to the aggressors' territory and to emphasize to the entire world with great ability that Iraq's army today serves the Arab nation, defending its territory and dignity, as well as Iraq's territory and dignity.

The leaders used to fight at the head of their men in the battles of liberation waged by our Arab ancestors. That was a great characteristic of the Arab army, the army of the Islamic mission. In the ages of deterioration, this brilliant picture vanished and our enemies began to boast that their officers and leaders fight at the head. This was boasted by the Zionists in their repeated aggression against our nation.

Today the sun has risen again in the land of Mesopotamia, land of first Qadisiyah. When the war raged in defense of principles, sovereignty and dignity in the second Qadisiyah, Iraq's valiant leaders and commanding officers led the ranks, side by side with their brave soldiers. Thus, you, brave men, have recalled the traditions of your great ancestors in battle and have proven that the Arab nation has risen to enjoy its great historic qualities.

Now that these great historic facts have been manifested, the enemy forces try with all means to belittle the greatness of this hostoric accomplish ent. Despite the real or imagined differences and contradictions among several international circles and Iran's rulers, these rulers' primary concern from the outset of the battle has been to try to undermine the great and brilliant meanings of this victory. This is due to the fact that these circles, particularly world Zionism, know quite well that this great victory means the beginning of a real Arab renaissance. On 4 September 1980, the day when our army began to reply to the Persian enemy's aggression against Iraqi lands and cities, a new epoch began in Arab history. It is the epoch of independence, might, progress, dignity and pride.

Oh brave fighters at the approaches of Ahvaz, Dezful, Abadan, Gilan and Khafajiyah [Susangerd]; Oh fighters in Qasr-e Shirin, Mehran, Sumar, Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr] Basatin and other battlefields: The historic values of your accomplishment do not lie only in the occupation or liberation of lands and the destruction of the criminal enemy force, but also in the fact that you have begun a new age of psychological and genuine awakening in the history of your glorious nation.

Your nation's enemies try with all means to rob you of the spirit of victory, now that your victory has become a fait accompli that cannot be denied. You are proving today and will prove tomorrow, as you have proven during the last 4 months, that the spirit of victory will remain a lofty torch, glowing in all battlefields and throughout Iraq, from its extreme north to its extreme south and from its extreme east to its extreme west. The light and heat of this torch extend far into Arab territory and into the souls of millions of its sons, who aspire to glory.

When we talk about the Iraqi ability to maintain the spirit of victory, we are not speaking in a vacuum or due to overenthusiasm. We base our statements on existing facts, which were further extrenched by the battle. The spirit of victory exists in the heart of the martyr's mother who, while walking in her son's funeral procession, looks as if she is walking to his wedding. The spirit of victory exists in the students who keep asking us to dispatch them to the battlefront.

The spirit of victory exists in the depth of those Iraqi elders who offered more than 30,000 volunteers in only 10 days. These brave people are still filling the air with their songs and their demands to be dispatched to the battlefront so that they may gain the honor of participating in the battle at the side of their sons and grandsons. The spirit of victory exists in the minds and souls of those Iraqis who have, amazingly, manufactured the spare parts needed by the Iraqi Army.

The spirit of victory exists in the fighters in all of the various sectors and fronts of the battle. The spirit of victory exists in the souls of those who rejected the principle of passive defense and who, instead, began to rove the area and attack the enemy's positions, thus inflicting increasing losses on him and spreading terror and disappointment among his members. In so doing, these fighters present the best examples in the history of modern war of the method of active defense, and do so in the depth of enemy territory.

The spirit of victory exists in the souls of those brave fighters who are wounded in the fighting and who refuse to be evacuated to the rear or even refuse to be hospitalized, insisting instead on staying in the frontlines to continue fighting. To these we send our greetings and appreciation.

The spirit of victory exists in the souls of tens of thousands of the People's Army who are still moving, one unit after the other, toward the fronts to participate in the battle of honor and glory. The spirit of victory exists in the souls of the brave engineers and workers who have contributed to the efforts to conquer the muddy winter, paving dozens of kilometers of transportation lines for our heroic army and building dams to stand in the face of threats posed by natural phenomena and the enemy's attempts to employ these phenomena against us.

The spirit of victory exists in the activities of the civil defense and the domestic security organs, which have turned Iraq into a strong rock upon which all hostile attempts founder.

The spirit of victory exists in those who stand as examples of boldness, the drivers of heavy civilian equipment entrusted with digging trenches for the tanks, vehicles and other positions. Some of these drivers have even taken part in the striking force at the head of our advanced armored units, thus showing the best example of boldness and manliness and presenting the best expression of the new Iraq.

The spirit of victory exists in the activities of millions of men and women who are working in the fields of economy, the services, transportation, health, education and in the other fields of daily life so that Iraq, despite the burdens and the requirements of the battle, can continue to be strong and prosperous and can continue to march with firm and capable steps on the path of development and progress.

The spirit of victory exists in the splendid works of writers, poets and artists who spring from the genuine Iraqi and Arab genius. The spirit of victory exists in the consciences and souls of the Iraqi women, who persistently demand to take part in the armed resistance in the battlefronts.

This is, brothers, the spirit of victory. It is strong, flourishing and even giving. Therefore, we do not fear dangers, surprises or various possibilities, particularly as this spirit of victory fills the minds and souls of Iraqi men and women and radiates, in one way or another, through the Arab nation and the Arab homeland.

All hostile circles, and the Persian enemy himself, thought that Iraq was unable to continue the battle. They circulated false claims about the blitzkrieg battle planned by Iraq. This is why the Persian enemy refuses to recognize our rights and our bets on the Iraqi people's ability and patience. I tell them on your behalf, brothers, that the Iraqi people's bravery and enthusiasm have never been in dispute. They have proven this splendidly in the war, going beyond all expectations. The Iraqis are no longer impatient.

The July revolution created a new Iraq for the brave, enthusiastic and sacrificing Iraqi is, at the same time, a disciplined and patient citizen, who is capable of coping with all critical conditions.

Therefore, I say to the failures: You have lost your bet. Iraq has triumphed in the battle and will continue the fight. Iraq will continue to keep the spirit of victory until it forces the Persian enemy to recognize the rights of Iraq and of the Arab nation. The Iraqis will prove to the entire world that they are more patient than their enemy.

Brothers, sons of our glorious Arab nation. When the Persian enemy committed his aggression against Iraq and showed complete disregard by violating Arab territory and rights, he thought that he would be able to isolate Iraq from the rest of its Arab brothers and that the Arab nation would not rush to Iraq's side. The enemy was encouraged in this attitude and assessment by a handful of Arabs who sold their honor and conscience. Their black hatred made them raise their suspicious goals above the Arab nation's values and interests.

Iraq fought its war alone, but it did not lack support during this war, despite all campaigns of deception and distortion. Through their high sense of national pride, the Arab masses understood the historic significance and value of the war, especially when for the first time they saw an Arab army fighting outside its international borders, in defense of its rights and sovereignty. These masses felt that something new indeed had occurred in Arab life. Thus, they paid more attention to the war. Day after day, more and more sectors of the Arab masses understood the meaning of the war, showed enthusiasm for it and gave it their blessings and support.

As for those who wagered on Iraq's isolation from the rest of the Arab nation, they did not understand the historic significance of the Arab nation; this great humane bond which has preserved the Arab nation's spiritual and cultural unity and common destiny, despite the eras of weakness, decline and division and all forms of imperialism and foreign control that dominated the region over the years, from the downfall of the Abbasid dynasty and the Arab rule in Andalusia through our present time.

As a matter of fact, the enemies have tried to crush this very national bond by fostering regional, communal and tribal strifes, to divide the Arab nation and thus to control the Arab homeland. They concentrated their black hostility against Iraq, knowing that Iraq is a steadfast Arab stronghold and a beacon that has devoted itself to the defense of Arab territory, dignity and honor. With God's help, Iraq remained steadfast and triumphed. The base plot, which shared common objectives with imperialist and Zionist plans, was crushed. The battle initiated a new Arab national awakening and ushered in a new era for the Arab revolution and the Arab future.

The continuation of the battle has brought further support from the Arab masses and from some Arab officials. Some of these officials declared this support openly and strongly, while others used different methods in declaring their support.

Those Arab nations who wagered on the victory of the enemies saw their foul dreams and plans dissipate. They have reaped only shame and ignominy. History will gloriously record the stands of those brother Arabs who supported Iraq. History will also record the shameful and ignominous stands of those Arabs who supported the enemies and stabbed brave Iraq in the back. These treacherous Arabs wagered on the Persian enemy's defeat of Iraq because of the supremacy of his hardware and manpower. They forgot that Iraq has never spared its blood in the glorious Arab battles in Palestine, the Golan and Sinai. Some of them were so treasonous that they massed their armed forces on the border with Arab Jordan, which adopted a brave Arab stand on the side of its Iraqi brothers. Their goal was to punish Jordan and to undermine Iraq's thrust. They were thus coordinating their stands with their allies in the Iranian regime.

For instance, the Syrian regime justified its support for the Persian enemy by claiming that Iraq turned its back on the Palestine question and that its forces are fighting a Muslim country. Yet the Syrian regime, whose territory has been occupied by the Zionist enemy for 13 years now, had no scruples in massing its troops and using armed threats against an Arab and Muslim country on the longest frontline with the enemy. The Syrian regime's false claims and hatred against Arabism were thus exposed.

But Iraq, which is a part of the Arab nation, will continue to cherish the brave and honorable Arab stand adopted by Jordan--people, government and king. As for the treacherous, they will not be able to cover their treason, regardless of the methods to which they resort, because these methods will not deceive the Arab nation and its honest leaders. Crooked politics and diplomatic charlatanism will not change the historical facts. History has already pinned down the traitors. History will try them and put them in the places they deserve.

Brothers: In its international relations Iraq has always proceeded on the basis of legitimate national and pan-Arab interests. Further, Iraq has always adhered to international laws and norms and has stood solidly and bravely in support of the peoples' right to freedom and independence and against all kinds of colonialism, exploitation, aggression and racial discrimination. Iraq has honestly and sincerely extended material and moral aid to all world liberation movements. It has helped the Third World countries, particularly the nonaligned movement's states. It has strongly adhered to this movement's principles and carried out its commitments to it with complete accuracy. This principled policy, which derives from the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party's principles and from a profound and sound concept of the Arab nation's interests, has gained Iraq a respectable and effective international position and has made many world countries seek Iraq's friendship, reassured about dealing with it in accordance with common principles and interests.

When the war erupted between us and Iran, and despite some international circles' attempts to undermine Iraq's name, Iraq's international position was not affected Iraq preserved its consolidated international relations and proved to its friends that it is a faithful friend, to be depended upon in all circumstances. Proceeding from the legitimacy of our stand in the struggle against Iran, we have dealt with the world community and with the international bodies that showed interest in the conflict in this region in accordance with sound principled bases. We call on others to apply these bases in the manner in which we apply them to ourselves.

We have affirmed to all who sought to end the war and to reach a peaceful settlement that we have fought for legitimate historical rights and that our goal is to regain these right and to reach a just and honorable settlement of the dispute. We have particularly affirmed that Iraq, which is victorious in the battle arena, believes that it is necessary that the principle of the inadmissibility of the seizure of other people's territories by force should predominate between Iraq and the Arab nation on one hand and Iran on the other. The territory and rights that Iran seized by force must be returned to its legitimate Arab owners. Iraq is completely ready to return the Iranian territories that it occupied by force. Thus, a just and honorable solution would be reached by both sides. Appropriate conditions for the establishment of normal relations between Iran and the Arabs would be available, free of aggressive and expansionist tendencies. The two sides would then set about development and the safeguarding of security and stability in the region, free of foreign intervention.

The policy followed by Iran's former regime and continued by the present regime under false cover and slogans has exposed this sensitive region to dangers. This encouraged international forces to interfere in its affairs, to attempt to restore their hegemony over it and to turn it into a zone of international struggle and foreign military presence.

Tehran's rulers are held responsible, above all, for this situation. They behaved foolishly and irresponsibly and chose roles for themselves that were proven unattainable in practice, because these roles are contrary to the will and interests of the region's peoples, as well as to the legitimate rights of the Iranian peoples themselves.

We, from the vantage point of strength and capability, reiterate our call to solve the problems between us and Iran by peaceful means, in accordance with the foundations I've mentioned. We would like to again affirm our complete readiness to cooperate with all international bodies that are exerting sincere efforts to reach this goal. I, on behalf of Iraq, would like to refer with particular appreciation to the efforts being exerted by the nonaligned movement, the UN secretary general, the Islamic Conference and all friendly states that showed concern about the standing dispute and that tried to contribute to finding a peaceful, just and honorable solution for it.

The interest of the peoples in our region and of the entire world requires that security and stability be sovereign, in accordance with the just and legitimate principles of respect for the sovereignty of countries and the freedom of people in each of the world's countries to define their political and social choices, free of any form of foreign intervention. While stressing these principles, we particularly stress the need to bolster the will of Arab independence in the whole Arab homeland, particularly in this region.

Any form of dependence on a foreign power in matters of national and pan-Arab defense and internal security and stability is merely an illusion. Indeed, this is a responsibility that must be shouldered by the people and leaders. The Arabs' fate, future and security should be in Arab hands. No foreign power will be of any use to them in such matters, however much such a power pretends to be their friend or to be concerned about them.

We praise the important achievements that the Arabs accomplished in the Amman summit conference, which have bolstered our economic decisions in particular and our joint pan-Arab responsibilities generally. With all faith and sincerity, we call for reliance upon Arab potentials, thus keeping the area free of any form of foreign presence or influence. This plan would further support our international status as Arabs. It would also safeguard our sovereignty and interests and would enable us to afford the military, economic and political requirements for facing the Zionists or any other enemy.

We believe that the principles that we included in the national declaration of 8 February 1980 regarding inter-Arab relations, the Arab nation's relations with neighboring countries and Arab-interntional relations are the sound foundations that must guide us. These principles are no longer a personal interpretation, for experience has proven their soundness and importance in safeguarding the Arab nation's independence and sovereignty.

Depending upon these principles, Iraq, which is a part of the Arab nation and the Arab homeland, has been able to fight this holy battle splendidly, without any dependence on greedy international powers. Dependence upon oneself in facing foreign dangers and challenges is the correct course of action. We should learn this basic lesson in our present and future confrontation with the Zionist enemy. Meanwhile, we can see that all of the policies and choices that were dependent on foreign powers have collapsed and failed completely, because they ignored the great forces and potentials of the Arab nation.

Brothers, the Iranian rulers are held fully responsible for the current war. Since coming to power they have focused all of their malice and hatred on Iraq and the Arab nation. They resorted to direct threats, began to behave arrogantly and revealed their expansionist dreams, which did not differ in nature and objectives from those of the former regime. They behaved foolishly and were influenced by foreign and suspicious circles. So they moved and were pushed toward fighting Iraq until they finally developed this fighting into an aggressive war. They started this war on 4 September, when they shelled Iraqi territory and cities with heavy artillery. Then they massed forces on the Iraqi border, closed their airspace, announced a general alert, closed the Shatt al-'Arab and closed the Hormuz Strait to Iraqi ships.

These rulers who are held responsible for starting the war are also held responsible for continuing this war and for its catastrophic effect on Iran and the Iranian peoples. On 28 September, after we had proven on the battlefield that Iraq is capable of facing their expansionist and greedy plans and of deterring their aggression, we proposed peace to them and announced that Iraq demands the restoration of its legitimate national rights on its land and waters and of legitimate Arab rights to their owners. We then said that Iraq is fully prepared to withdraw from Iranian territories and to establish natural relations with Iran, based on respect of sovereignty and noninterference in each other's domestic affairs. Yet the Iranian rulers, who are deeply involved in their errors, malice and ignorance, did not listen to that sincere appeal and insisted on continuing the fighting. They even made further hollow statements about their ability to repulse the Iraqi Army and even to chase it back inside Iraqi territory. They even repeated what they had said before the war about their intention of occupying Iraq and undermining its revolution.

Four months have already passed and they have reaped nothing but failure and disappointment. Iran and its miserable peoples have reaped nothing but woe, catastrophe and destruction. This arrogant, suspicious and perplexed clique thought that Iraq was an easy prey and that the revolutionary regime in Iraq was about to collapse. They thought that by increasing their hostility toward the Iraqi regime and by starting a war against it, it would eventually collapse. Unfortunately, they were encouraged by Arab circles and regimes, which supplied the Iranians with bad advice and false information, believing that by so doing they would be able to give vent to their rancor against Iraq and its pan-Arab resolutionary regime.

All of them have been disappointed and the forces of treason and darkness have been defeated. Right has won. They will also fail in the future, God willing.

Those people thought that our national revolutionary regime was isolated from the people and that Saddam Husayn was pent up and aloof in his palace. But when the first bullet was fired, triggering off the battle, thousands and thousands of our brave Iraqi people poured out to fight like men, like the Muslims in the dawn of Islam. They were greatly disappointed when they saw the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, the Iraqi people, the Iraqi Army, the leadership and Saddam Husayn standing as one man and portraying the new Iraq, which was built by the revolution; Iraq the steadfast bastion, which is seeking the new Arab awakening and which is regaining usurped Arab rights.

The Iranian peoples have a right to punish their conceited, ignorant and suspect leaders for the crimes they have committed against them by dragging Iran into this destructive war, motivated only by their personal hatreds, conceit and suspect inclinations. It is the Iranian peoples' right to ask these rulers: Where is the isolation from which the Iraqi regime is suffering, the Iraqi revolutionary leadership and Saddam Husayn, when thousands and thousands of Iraqis are fighting bravely and heroically and are inflicting successive defeats on the ruling Iranian clique? Why commit an aggression against Iraq, a neighboring country that has never attacked or harmed Iran? Why have the conceited, ignorant and suspect Iranian rulers deprived the Iranian peoples of the opportunity to accept the cease-fire offer made by Iraq on 28 September 1980? Would it not be better if Iran had accepted that offer and the other offers instead of continuing the war and reaping only defeat, losses and destruction? It is the right of the Iranian peoples, who have been afflicted by this evil clique, to ask their rulers and to punish them.

Iraq, which has often reiterated the principles and bases governing its relations with Iran under normal circumstances, will remain loyal to the pledges it has made until the Iranian people manage to control their own destiny and coexist peacefully with Iraq and the Arab nation. But as long as the present ruling clique continues to pursue its erroneous course we will continue to teach the aggressors the lessons they deserve.

We know that there are certain circles inside and outside the Iranian Government that want peace and ties of good neighborliness with Iraq and the Arab nation and want to eliminate the effects of the shah's hostile economic policy, as well as the policy of the present ruling clique. We salute these circles and wish them success in their righteous efforts. We also salute all of the Iranian peoples--the Kurds, the Baluchis, the Azarbayjanis and the Arabs--and assure them of our support for their struggle against tyranny and oppression. We tell them that we stand by their legitimate aspirations and rights. We also salute the righteous Persians, who reject the policies of expansion and aggression.

Comrades, sons of the victorious armed forces: I extend my greetings to you on your glorious day. I extend the greetings of all Iraqi people in Baghdad, Basra, Karbala', As-Sulaymaniyan, Nineveh, Al-Muthanna, An-Najaf, Irbil, Al-Anbar, Dhi Qar, At-Ta'Mim, Al-Qadisiyah, Maysan, Diyala, Salah ad-Din, Wasid, Dahuk and Babylon. I extend the greetings of the old people, the children, the youth and the women. You are indeed the righteous sons of Iraq. You are the sumbol of Iraq's dignity, honor and glory. You are the ones who create the present and open the way to the bright future. Your sacrifices will forever be remembered by the people and the nation.

To you, our righteous martyrs, I extend the greetings of love and tribute, oh glorious ones. You have set a great example in sacrifice and selflessness. You were the best of grandsons to your great forefathers, who raised the banner of the Islamic message and spread right and justice throughout the world. You departed with a free conscience. With your martyrdom, you attained the peak of the glory reached by our victorious armed forces and great people. You preceded us in attaining this great and honorable status. You have thus become the jewel in the crown of victory, to remain there throughout history and to serve as an eternal torch in the conscience of the people and the nation for present and future generations.

You were a symbol. You were also the most generous of us, even among those who steeled themselves for martyrdom along the path of principles. You have our pledge, and it is also our pledge to our great people, that we will continue the struggle in the march of justice and principles without hesitation and without tiring. We will take care of your relatives just as they were cared for by the most generous of you in life, with God's help.

Oh martyrs: Your great status in life lies in the fact that many of Iraq's men, who are now ready to sacrifice themselves, rejoice in your lofty stand. Your women, children and all of your people harbor even more love and appreciation for you than the women, children and relatives of the brave Iraqis who today put themselves on the path to martyrdom. You have our greetings. All of Iraq's people extend their best wishes to you every time the sun rises and sets. You must be proud of this honor, in addition to what you gain from Almight God, who said: Think not of those who are slain in God's way as dead. Nay, they live, finding their sustenance in the presence of their Lord. [Koranic verse]

You are living, oh martyrs, with your God and in the Iraqi people's hearts. Your names, oh heroes, are a symbol of your country's greatness and are torches that light the path for the people along the road of construction, pride and glory.

Oh brave fighters in Ahvaz, Qasr-e, Shirin, Mehran and at the banks of the Karun River and Shatt al-'Arab and in other places and fronts: Greetings of admiration and pride in you, who are writing a brilliant history for your people and nation through your bravery, patience and capability. Oh brave men: Fight as you have previously fought and as your ancestors 'Ali, Khalid, Al-Muthanna, Sa'd, Tariq and Salah ad-Din fought. You are good grandsons from good ancestors. God is with you, brothers. History is at your side. All Iraqis are anticipating your heroic accomplishments. All eyes and hearts in the entire Arab homeland are directed toward you, waiting for you to accomplish this sacred mission, so that you can accomplish another sacred pan-Arab mission: The struggle to liberate Jerusalem and dear Palestine. Aren't you the grandsons of Nebuchadnezzar and Salah ad-Din?

Glory and immortality to our army's innocent martyrs and to our proud people's martyrs.

Glory and pride to all sons of Iraq and of the Arab nation. There is no victory except from God.

May God's peace and blessings be upon you.

ARMED FORCES COMMAND ISSUES COMMUNIQUE NO 202

JN061752 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1615 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Communique No 202 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 6 January 1981]

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Jan (INA)--In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Today is the 60th anniversary of the Iraqi Army, army of the Arab nation. This occasion comes when our army is consolidating the heroic national and pan-Arab stands that it has written with letters of light and through generous sacrifice. This was done through the achievement of victory over the racist Persian enemy in all of the battles it waged during the past 4 months. In defense of the dignity and honor of Iraq and the Arab nation and in its firm belief in the justice of our cause.

Following are the results of our forces' activities in their operational sectors yesterday evening and today:

I. The ground forces:

A. An enemy force tried to approach one of our units' positions in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region but was repulsed and forced to flee after sustaining 12 dead.

B. Following the enemy's desperate attempts in the last 2 days to attack our advanced forces' positions in the Gilan-e Gharb region and following our forces' heroic confrontation of them, the enemy was forced to retreat after most of his force was destroyed. The enemy suffered 198 dead and the destruction of 7 tanks and 1 steamshovel, in addition to the downing of 1 helicopter in the last of these attempts.

C. Five were killed and one observation post was destroyed opposite our forces' positions in the Sayf Sa'd region.

D. An enemy force tried to approach our forces' position in the Mehran region. Our advanced units clashed with it with all sorts of weapons and forced it to retreat, leaving behind 21 dead.

E. Yesterday afternoon, large enemy forces comprising armor, infantry and other support weapons attacked our forces in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region from three directions, an effort that Bani-Sadr, in his cable to charlatan Khomeyni, called the main counterattack. Our valiant forces clashed with them in this sector with all weapons. The battles between our forces and the enemy forces have been raging from yesterday afternoon until the time this communique was prepared. Our valiant forces are demonstrating the greatest examples of bravery, steadfastness and heroic confrontation in these battles. Meanwhile, the enemy forces are retreating, leaving behind a large number of weapons, equipment, destroyed and intact tanks and captives. We will give you the details of the stand in a later communique.

F. An enemy force comprising tanks and infantry tried to attack the positions of one of our advanced units in the Ahvaz region. Our forces clashed with it, using all sorts of weapons, and forced it to retreat, leaving behind 20 dead, 19 tanks, 3 vehicles, 1 gun and 1 steamshovel. An ammunition stockpile was destroyed in the same region. The enemy again tried to attack our positions in the same region, but was strongly repulsed and was forced to flee, leaving behind 100 dead, 3 armored vehicles, 2 vehicles and 1 steamshovel.

G. An enemy troop concentration was sighted opposite our positions in the Abadan region. All sorts of weapons opened fire and forced the enemy to flee, leaving behind 16 dead. Moreover, nine troops were killed, while four vehicles, one of which was loaded with ammunition, and one steamshovel were destroyed in the same region.

H. Today our armed forces' helicopters raided enemy military targets in the Khafajiyah and Gilan-e Gharb regions and destroyed 17 tanks and 1 personnel carrier. All of our helicopters returned safely to base.

I. Our field antiaircraft defenses in the Ahvaz region shot down two enemy Phantom planes this afternoon.

II. The air forces: Our air force formations raided enemy positions in the Khafajiyah and Ahvaz regions. They carried out 15 raids today, scoring direct hits against enemy armor, vehicles and artillery. Our heroic pilots proved their high efficiency and capability in supporting our ground forces and in inflicting heavy losses on the ignorant enemy, who is afflicted by defeat and loss.

Consequently, known enemy losses are: 381 dead, 43 tanks, 9 armored vehicles, 1 armored personnel carrier, 1 gun, 1 observation post, 4 steamshovels, 1 ammunition stockpile and 3 planes, one of which was a helicopter and two of which were Phantoms.

III. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 29 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: The following were damaged: three tanks, one personnel carrier, four vehicles and three guns.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 6 January 1981

MILITARY COMMANDER REPORTS BATTLE SUCCESSES

JN070905 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0845 GMT 7 Jan 81

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Jan (INA)--An Iraqi military commander today told the ATH-THAWRAH team in the southern sector that his forces in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region are currently surrounding from all directions an Iranian infantry force which tried to approach the Iraqi forward units in the area. The enemy force is supported by armored cars.

The military commander said that the Iraqi forces are now dealing fatal blows to the enemy force, whose remnants are desparately trying to withdraw. He said that the enemy's losses in life and equipment are grave in this battle which has been raging since Monday morning. He added that the enemy's losses are increasing with every Iraqi blow.

The Iraqi commander ridiculed the Iranian clique's contentions and lies about the course of operations in the Khafajiyah sector. He said: Our forces are now standing at the approaches of the city and in their forward trenches with all strength and efficiency, and are fiercly confronting all the desperate Iranian attempts.

EMBASSY IN ANKARA ISSUES STATEMENT ON WAR

TA061627 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1600 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] A statement issued by the Iraqi Embassy in Ankara on occasion of Army Day says that Iran insists on violating the Algerian agreement signed in 1975. The statement says that this is why Iraq is turning the lands it occupies into defense areas. It adds that the Iraqi Army will not withdraw from its positions in Iran until the Iranian leaders accept and respect Iraq's legitimate rights. The statement also says that Iraq does not covet Iranian territory and does not pursue a policy of invasion.

SARKIS ADDRESSES DIPLOMATIC CORPS 6 JAN

NC061345 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Speech by President Ilyas Sarkis at a meeting with heads of the diplomatic corps in Beirut on 6 January on the occasion of the new year--recorded]

[Excerpts] What our people in Lebanon have endured and are still enduring qualifies us to address the outside world from east to west and from north to south in a frank language. After the hard experiences through which we have passed and are passing we say that any delay in solving the Lebanese crisis or in postponing it over any other crisis in the area or in the world, regardless of the links which may connect one with the other, is something which we strongly reject. This logic, which appears innocent on surface, hurts Lebanon and the Lebanese deeply.

The Middle East crisis, and its essence the Palestinian problem, which was caused by Israel through its usurpation of the land and the expulsion of the people, has been adopted by Lebanon since the beginning. Lebanon opened its heart and territory to those who were expelled from Palestine. We have been and are still mobilizing our efforts and urging the world to find a just and comprehensive solution to it based on granting the Palestinian people the right to self-determination and to establish a state of their own on the land of Palestine. This problem will continue to be at the top of our concerns, and we will work on it with the responsibilities we feel on the Arab and international levels.

While we try to safeguard our territory against all types of Israeli aggressions in the south and the resultant homelessness and threat to Lebanon's security, we cannot accept against our will and in the absence of a unified Arab strategy that this land should become an orphan stage for actions which may threaten the unity and integrity of this homeland and its people. If the Palestinian problem is sacred, it is self-evident that Lebanon's unity, integrity, sovereignty and independence is also sacred, and the sacredness of no other issue can top it.

Hence our disappointment and bitterness when some behave as if they care little about undermining the values, principles and rights of Lebanon in the course of defending or solving another issue.

The attempts being made to solve the Palestinian problem are still going in a vicious circle, despite the efforts being exerted here and there. Any plans to solve this problem on the basis of resettlement [of the Palestinians in Lebanon], as some may think, are also rejected, because they affect the rights and interests of Lebanon. Furthermore, such plans do not take into consideration the rights of the Palestinian people in their land.

The tunes of resettlement are accompanied by tunes of partition, as if there is a plan for both resettlement and partition. Such maneuvers will not weaken our determination to reject both resettlement and partition and to reject anything that could threaten the unity and integrity of the homeland.

We believe in national accord as a means and an objective, and are working to achieve it. We are aware of the obstacles facing the achievement of national accord, whether it be those which were produced by the events or those which are fabricated and which are being exploited by those who make them--and they are many. Our faith in this country and its people is stronger than the effect of these obstacles. The Lebanese must unite despite the obstacles and difficulties. This was evident in the Lebanese consensus on the basic principles of the accord.

Your Excellencies, although we appreciate the effective assistance which brothers and friends have provided us, we declare that those who announce their care for Lebanon must match words with deeds and prove in deed their respect for the rights of the Lebanese and their free future. They must not share, knowingly or unknowingly, in the continued tragedy of this country.

Your Excellencies, we are confident that any aid from the fraternal states to us will help us solve our crisis and contribute to the confrontation of the common dangers threatening us in this part of the world. The understanding of Lebanon's reality and its crisis by the friendly states and the international and regional organizations and their concern for it also contribute to the establishment of peace based on justice in the Middle East and the whole world.

SYRIAN CLASHES WITH MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD REPORTED

NC051557 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 5 Jan 81

[Text] According to reports from Syria, the Muslim Brotherhood has renewed its activity in Aleppo.

On Saturday the Muslim Brotherhood attacked a roadblock manned by Syrian special forces in (Bab al-Mandab) using handgrenades and machineguns. One officer and seven enlisted men were killed in this attack, and the atmosphere became tense throughout Aleppo.

The head of the Muslim Brotherhood, (Sabri 'Adnan 'Aql), disguised himself in a bride's gown and drove in a car followed by a convoy of decorated vehicles. When the convoy arrived at (Bab al-Faraj), bombs were thrown at special forces positions, killing many and seriously wounding others.

On Sunday morning a Syrian Army force attacked (Karm Muyassar) and (Sav'Bahrat) and clashed with the Muslim Brotherhood using artillery and tanks. Twelve people among both the Muslim Brotherhood and the attacking force were killed.

Leaflets were distributed in Aleppo threatening to blow up all state institutions, hospitals and universities unless they cooperated with the brotherhood.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES CYPRIOT POLITICAL LEADER

JN061829 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] At 1215 today President Hafiz al-Asad received Dr Vassos Lyssarides, leader of the Cypriot Unified Democratic Union of the Center. Their talks dealt with the general situation in the region, particularly the situation in Cyprus and the Arab homeland and the struggle against the rabid reactionary-Zionist-imperialist onslaught to which the region is exposed.

SYRIAN, CYPRIOT POLITICAL PARTIES SIGN ACCORD

JN071323 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1215 GMT 7 Jan 81

[Text] Damascus, 7 Jan (SANA)--An agreement for joint cooperation was signed here today between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the Cypriot Unified Democratic Union of the Center [EDEK].

The agreement was signed on behalf of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party by Comrade Muhammad Haydar, party national command member and head of the foreign relations office. It was signed for the Cypriot side by EDEK leader Vassos Lyssarides.

After the agreement was signed, Comrade Haydar and Vassos Lyssarides exchanged viewpoints on the strong relations linking the two parties and on ways of promoting these relations in the service of the two friendly peoples and their joint struggle against imperialism, Zionism and their aggressive schemes in the region.

EGYPTIAN OPPOSITION OFFICIAL MEETS WITH SYRIANS

JN070750 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] Comrade Muhammad Haydar, Ba'th Party national command member and official in charge of the foreign relations office, met today with engineer Mustafa Sylayman, official in charge of foreign relations in the Egyptian National Front. They discussed the status of the Egyptian popular opposition and the means of bolstering it. They also discussed ways of developing the Arab struggle.

Engineer Sulayman also met with Comrade 'Isam al-Qadi, the head of the As-Sa'iqah Organization. The internal situation in Egypt and Palestine were discussed during the meeting. They reviewed the struggle of our Arab people in the two countries against Israel's plots and its agent As-Sadat.

PARLIAMENTARIAN DELEGATION LEAVES FOR CUBA

JN071321 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1247 GMT 7 Jan 81

[Text] Damascus, 7 Jan (SANA)--A Syrian parliamentarian delegation under Dr Muhsin Bilal, head of the Committee of Arab and Foreign Affairs in the People's Assembly, left Damascus for Havana today on a visit of several days to Cuba, at the invitation of the national assembly of the people's government in Cuba. This visit comes within the framework of the development of the ties of friendship linking the two states, particularly as they are both members of the Nonaligned Coordination Bureau.

Parliamentarian viewpoints will be coordinated during the visit, in preparation for the IPU conference to be held in Manila this spring.

COMMENTATOR SEES KISSINGER TRIP AS CONSPIRATORIAL

JN070903 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 7 Jan 81

[Text] Damascus--The Damascus radio political editor has noted that the feverish U.S. moves which are being conducted by U.S. envoys and Washington's allies have been mounted prior to Reagan's assumption of the presidency.

The political editor added that these overt conspiratorial moves are aimed at paving the way for implementing U.S. plans for hegemony in the Arab area and at strengthening the U.S. military presence in it. This, the editor said, is bound to bolster the Camp David plot and to serve Israel's interests and achieve its expansionist objectives.

The political editor sees a link between Henry Kissinger's current tour and his call on King Husayn to join the Camp David negotiations on the one hand, and the expected government change in Israel on the other. He said that King Husayn's departure from Arab unanimity is in line with the plans of the Israeli Labor Party, for the latter frankly calls for solving the Palestinian issue by sharing rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip with King Husayn's regime.

The political editor also noted a connection between Kissinger's call for boosting the U.S. military presence in the area and the conspiratorial moves in this area. He said: At a time when the U.S. aggressive alliance is being integrated among Israel, As-Sadat, Somalia and Amman, Israel's agents in Lebanon are escalating their moves and King Husayn is trying to preoccupy Syria, so as to deal separately with the Palestinian cause. At a time when Israel is attacking southern Lebanon and provoking Syria, Saddam Husayn's regime is completing the conspiratorial scheme by involving Iraq in further victims, losses and destruction.

The political editor said that these feverish moves, which are basically aimed against the Arab cause through Syria, are clearly demonstrated in the U.S. statements and measures. The secretary of defense in Reagan's administration has announced that the new administration will intensify U.S. military preparations. NATO sources in Brussels have declared that NATO will shift its efforts and concerns from the European arena to the Middle East. AFP reports that the last NATO ministerial meeting approved several military measures which are aimed at facilitating a movement by U.S. forces from Europe for the purpose of intervention in the Middle East.

In conclusion, the political editor said that the current U.S. conspiratorial moves confirm that the front of Arab enemies is in the process of intensifying its aggressive acts against the Arab nation. Since Syria is confronting the new aggressive current with all its strength, it is incumbent upon the Arab nation to be alert and to work for realizing a militant Arab solidarity to confront chis imminent U.S.-Zionist invasion.

PAPER CALLS ON ARABS TO OPPOSE KISSINGER

LD071045 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 30 Dec 80 p 2

[Jabarah al-Barghuti article: "Kissinger Carries Love for the King and Death for the Cause"]

[Excerpts] Kissinger has once again appeared in the area bearing in his bosom great love for his majesty the king [Husayn] and carrying in his quiver a few arrows whose blades he thinks can further deepen the wound he inflicted on the Arab body after paving the way for the Camp David accords and separating Egypt from the Arab confrontation with the Zionist enemy.

Kissinger is true to the plan for whose purpose he came to reconnoiter just as he is true in his desire to kill the Arab cause in Palestine and Jerusalem and true in his affiliation to Zionism and in advocating the squandering of Arab rights for the sake of Israel. In the first statement he made in Egypt he unequivocally declared that Amman is the first and most important stop on his current tour and that the time has come for the Jordanian king to join the Camp David accords.

Since this Kissinger has begun his tour by talking about the "Jordanian option" while in the meantime the Zionist Labor Party has come out with its plan which agrees with the plan for the United Kingdom which the Jordanian monarch is seeking to establish. The only option left for the Arab nation is to oppose Kissinger and his methods. This would blunt his arrows and prevent them from bleeding the Arab body.

If the U.S. administration under Reagan has found in th Jordanian king the runner to complete As-Sadat's "journey," it also knows that there is in Jordan a people who defeated the Baghdad alliance and thwarted Eisenhower's doctrine and that there is in Syria a will to resist and a determination to confront and to triumph.

REPORT ON SYRIAN DELEGATION'S MEETINGS IN LIBYA

JN061410 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] Comrade Tawfiq Salhah, Ba'th Party regional command member and head of the regional organization office, resumed meetings in Tripoli today, along with his accompanying delegation, with several secretaries of the People's Committee and municipality and professional sectors that are participating in the general people's congress.

Viewpoints were exchanged during these meetings. Comrade Salhah gave a detailed picture of Syria's experiment in the people's practice of power through popular, unionist, professional and municipality congresses.

He also reviewed the party's march of struggle and its achievements, particularly those that came about following the corrective movement under President Hafiz al-Asad, and culminated in the October war of liberation.

Further, Comrade Salhah explained the party's confrontation with U.S. imperialist, Zionist and reactionary plots, particularly the Camp David accords and its agent tools, the Muslim Brotherhood gangs.

In conclusion, Comrade Salhah praised the role played by the 1 September Revolution and its leader in bolstering the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and affirmed the determination of Syria and Libya to achieve unity.

LIBYA

TEXT OF LIBYA-CHAD COMMUNIQUE ON GOUKOUNI VISIT

LD061852 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 6 Jan 81

["Text" of joint communique on visit to Libya of Goukouni Oueddei, president of Chad, issued in Tripoli on 6 January]

[Text] At the invitation of the brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great Fatah revolution, the head of the Provisional National Unity Government of Chad and head of state, President Goukouni Oueddei, paid an official visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah between 26-30 Safar 1390 since the death of the prophet, corresponding to 2-6 January 1981, heading an important government delegation.

The guest and accompanying delegation were accorded a great, fraternal welcome which expressed the depth of fraternal ties between the two fraternal peoples.

President Goukouni Oueddei took part in the opening session of the third session of the General People's Congress. He made an important speech dealing with the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah's pioneering role in supporting legality in Chad, and exposing the role of reaction and some agent regimes in fanning the flames of sedition among the ranks of the people of Chad. On the occasion, he denounced the dubious role of As-Sadat's regime and that of Numayri against the will of the Chadian people, when they sided with the rebel Habre and supported him militarily and materially, stressing that stand was an application of the plans of colonialism. This being the case, he stressed that harboring the rebel Habre in any place is regarded as an act of aggression against the Chadian people.

Proceeding from the historic, cultural, human, racial, geographical and spiritual relations between the two fraternal Arab Libyan and Chadian peoples, and out of their belief in the unity of the common fate of the two peoples and so as to embody the eternal principles of the great Fatah revolution and the Frolinat revolution, the two sides stress that relations between the two peoples have their roots in these historic, geographical and spiritual ties: both peoples fought colonialism in Libya and in Chad side by side; their blood was shed for the same cause. The two peoples have mixed together over a long period of history. Tens of thousands of Chadian people have lived in Libya and have become Libyans; tens of thousands of Libyans have lived in Chad and have become Chadians.

Within the framework of the strategic alliance between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and Chad, important talks took place between the leaderships of both countries.

During these talks, it was agreed:

1. To work for the realization of complete unity between the two countries--a jamahiri [masses] unity in which authority, arms and resources are in the hands of the people; its (?foundation) is the people's congresses and committees.

2. To support the strategic and fateful alliance between the two countries, and to regard any aggression on either as an aggression on the other; each country is prepared to fight on the side of the other in case of an aggression on either of them.

3. The two sides decided to continue to support the struggle of the peoples struggling for their freedom, and to escalate the struggle against colonialism and Zionism and reaction in Africa and the Arab homeland, as everywhere else in the world.

4. The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah stresses the continuation of its support for the fraternal Republic of Chad in order to ensure the freedom and independence of its people and to eliminate the remnants of agent reaction which cooperates with colonialism, inside and outside.

5. Proceeding from the joint defense treaty signed between the two countries on 2 Sha'ban 1389 since the death of the prophet, corresponding to 15 June 1980, and in accordance with the official request of the Government of Chad, the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah will send a number of military men to assist in keeping security and maintaining peace, which have been realized by the ending of the civil war, and also to assist in the rebuilding of a Chadian National Army and Chadian security forces.

6. Both sides stress their complete condemnation of reactionary, imperialist and Zionist attempts, which are supported by colonialism, in the region, and in particular the two agent regimes in Egypt and Sudan, which seek to do harm to the victories scored by the Chadian people and to rekindle the flames of war and sedition in Chad.

The activities which are being practiced by the Egyptian and Sudanese regimes and the Sudanese president's statement that war has now begun in Chad are regarded as an embarking on aggression against the Chadian people, and are preparatory agent measures for aggression on Chad. What the two regimes are doing violates the principles of the OAU Charter and the Lagos agreement. In this connection, the two sides warn the Sudanese regime against the serious consequences of any aggressive act against Chad from Sudanese territory. The Sudanese regime shall be held responsible for the consequences. The Chadian people will not remain indifferent to what can be regarded as a threat to its security and safety.

7. The Jamahiriyah stresses the continuation of and the increase in its economic support for sister Chad in order to rebuild Chad and realize prosperity and progress for the fraternal Chadian people.

8. The two sides express full satisfaction with cooperation between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and Chad, a matter which effectively contributed to the realization of peace and security in the sister Republic of Chad.

9. The two sides express pleasure at the positive results which were achieved by the recent Lagos conference on the Chadian issue, stressing their commitment to the resolutions which were adopted by the conference and which stress without a shadow of doubt the ability of the Africans to resolve their problems by themselves without any foreign and colonialist intervention.

In this regard, the two sides express thanks and appreciation for the valuable efforts which were exerted by the sister Nigerian Federal Republic and its President Almaji Shehu Shagari to realize peace in Chad, and also their appreciation of the current OAU chairman and Sierra Leone President, Siaka Stevens.

10. The Chadian side highly appreciates the aid which the Jamahiriyah has given the Chad people, thanks to which the Chadian people were able to put an end to the rebels and to realize peace and security in Chad.

11. The two sides have decided to open the borders between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Chadian republic so as to enable Libyan and Chadian citizens to move with full freedom and without any restrictions in order to realize cohesion and interaction between the two fraternal peoples.

12. The two sides stress the importance of supporting the legitimate government in Chad, it being the sole legitimate authority in Chad. They call on the African states and the international community to support this government, so as to enable it to rebuild Chad, and also to give it aid and to completely refrain from dealing with any side or sides outside this government.

13. The two sides stress their commitment to work to preserve security and stability in the region, and also to respect the political choices of the countries of the region and the will of their governments, and also their adherence to the principles of noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries.

The Chadian Government expresses the desire to promote its relations with all states, and in particular those neighboring Chad, provided that these states respect the sovereignty of Chad and refrain from interfering in its internal affairs.

CHAD PRESIDENT HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE, DEPARTS

LD061350 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] The chairman of the Transitional National Union Government and president of the Republic of Chad, Goukouni Oueddei, and the delegation accompanying him left Tripoli this morning following a visit to the Jamahiriyah. President Goukouni was seen off at Tripoli international airport by Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud. The foreign secretary, the secretary of the general people's committee for reclamation of land and members of the political bodies accredited to the Jamahiriyah were at the airport to see him off.

President Goukouni Oueddei has stressed that the people of Chad and the Libyan Arab people are linked by firm relations and that they are determined to stand side by side to confront all imperialist intrigues hatched by the reactionary agents. At a press conference at Tripoli international airport this morning before he left the Jamahiriyah, Goukouni expressed his profound appreciation for the backing and support extended by the Libyan people to the fraternal people of Chad in rebuilding their national unity.

In reply to a question by one of the journalists, the president said that the people of Chad, under the leadership of the FROLINAT, sacrificed thousands of their sons when France helped former reactionary governments which ruled Chad before the government of Tombalbaye and Felix Maloum. He explained that the people of Chad fiercefully fought against the French presence and that they do not and will not permit the French to use their country as a launching base and will not allow French forces in Chad after the victory of the revolution.

The president of Chad expressed his satisfaction with the good results achieved by the recent Lagos conference. He said: I salute the stance of the Libyan Arab people and their stand by the side of the people of Chad for the liberation of their land and the eviction of the forces backed by colonialism and reaction which lit the fire of sedition in Chad and are trying to ignite Africa. President Goukouni Oueddei also saluted the stance of the people of Nigeria. The president of Chad said the rebel Habre, before all of his remnants were driven off, had rejected all agreements and reconciliation in order to restore unity to Chad, which has now been achieved thanks to our complete victory.

GENERAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS 6 JAN ACTIVITIES REPORTED

LD070032 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] The General People's Congress continued in closed session this evening until 2105, and after a short recess resumed with an open session at 2200. [words indistinct] The Congress agreed to accede to the wish of Muhammad 'Ali al-Jadi [words indistinct] and to entrust Muhammad Bilqasim Zuwayy with the portfolio of secretary of the General People's Committee for Justice. The Congress appointed Muhammad 'Ali al-Jadi as president of the High Court.

The General People's Congress secretary proposed the formation of a new secretariat for an important sector, namely of atomic energy for peaceful purposes. The secretary explained the tasks of the proposed secretariat [words indistinct] to keep abreast with the progress of the era, and of scientific and technological development. In view of the importance of energy in the world today and the wish of the great 1 September revolution to exploit better the sole source of energy in abundance in Jamahiriyah--oil--it took interest in atomic energy and formulated an integrated program. For this it established an advanced center for atomic research. The congress decided to entrust Engineer 'Abd al-Majid al-Qa'ud with the task of secretary for atomic energy.

The congress also appointed Dr Muftah al-Ustah 'Umar, secretary for internal affairs; 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, secretary for foreign affairs; 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, secretary of the People's Committee for the Bureau of External Liaison; Dr Murad 'Ali (Yakin), secretary for health; Muhammad [name indistinct], secretary for municipalities; Muhammad az-Zarruq Rajab, secretary of the General People's Congress; 'Ali Bilkhayr, assistant secretary of the General People's Congress; Muhammad Ali (Baghush), secretary for affairs of congresses at the Secretariat of the General People's Congress; Muhammad Qasim (Sirnalah), secretary for the treasury; (Rajab Muthallathi), governor of the Central Bank of Libya, and Salim As'ud Juwayli, deputy governor of the Central Bank of Libya.

The General People's Congress paid tribute to the sincere efforts made by the secretaries who gave up their posts for health reasons and those who moved to other posts to continue their revolutionary work in the service of the great 1 September revolution and the aspirations of our people and Arab nation.

At 2315 the session was adjourned. It is to hold its final session at 1100 tomorrow.

Syrian Official's Address

JN062134 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] Comrade Tawfiq Salihah, Ba'th Party Regional Command Member and head of the party's delegation to the General People's Congress, delivered a speech in today's session which began by conveying greetings from the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and its secretary general, President Hafiz al-Asad, to the conferees, the fraternal Libyan people and leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

Comrade Salihah reviewed the circumstances in which the party was established, the stages through which it has passed and its role in the 1958 unity between fraternal Syria and Egypt. He also talked about the stage the party passed through after the Syrian revolution, particularly after the corrective movement under President Hafiz al-Asad's leadership, and about the party's determination and struggle for Arab unity and for any unitary Arab meeting.

Tawfiq also spoke about Syria's steadfastness and confrontation of the imperialist designs in the region, particularly the Camp David process and its agent tools. He asserted that the Arab masses in fraternal Libya and Syria hope to consolidate the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and are determined to achieve unity, which will be the first step toward the greater unity and a firm reply to the imperialist and Zionist designs.

FOUR MORE EMBASSIES BECOME PEOPLE'S BUREAUS

LD070238 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] The Libyan Arab masses in China, Ethiopia, Guinea and Madagascar have marched on the Libyan Embassies there, turned them into people's bureaus and formed people's committees to run them.

MOROCCO

FRG'S HELMUT SCHMIDT ARRIVES, ATTENDS BANQUET

6 Jan Arrival

LD061730 Hamburg DPA in German 1603 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] Marrakech, 6 Jan (DPA)--Federal Chancellor Helmut Schmidt arrived in Morocco today for political talks with King Hassan II. At Marrakech airfield he was received with military honors by Prime Minister Maata Bouabid. Schmidt and his wife had flown in from Gran Canaria, a Spanish island in the Atlantic, where they had spent a 10-day holiday. Schmidt is to meet the king tonight. It is thought that they will be discussing peace efforts in the Middle East. Like the Federal Republic, Morocco upholds the right to self-determination of the Palestinian people and supports Israel's right to exist.

Another possible topic is thought to be the conflict in the Western Sahara, in which Morocco has been embroiled for 5 years with Algeria, Libya and the Polisario Front. But the Federal Government does not wish to act as a mediator.

Schmidt is to fly back to Germany tomorrow. Before his departure he is to have a talk with the Moroccan prime minister.

Marrakech Banquet

LD062332 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] This evening His Majesty King Hassan II gave a dinner banquet at the royal palace in Marrakech in honor of the chancellor of the FRG, Helmut Schmidt, who arrived in Morocco earlier today for a 2-day official visit. Present at the banquet were: Prime Minister and Justice Minister Maata Bouabid, some members of the government, minister of the royal palaces and protocol, his majesty's advisers, his majesty's ambassador to the FRG and members of the delegation accompanying the FRG chancellor.

SUDAN

PRESIDENT NUMAYRI RECEIVES U.S. OFFICIAL

LD061958 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 6 Jan 80 EA

[Text] The president of the republic, Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, received at his office in the People's Palace at 0900 this morning Mr Kamman, director of the East African Affairs Section of the State Department. The meeting discussed the latest developments in the Horn of Africa, on Sudan's borders and the progress of bilateral relations between the United States and Sudan. The meeting was also attended by Dr Baha ad-Din Muhammad Idris, minister of presidential affairs and the U.S. and the U.S. ambassador in Khartoum.

TUNISIA

MOROCCO'S BOUABID SPEAKS AT TUNIS DINNER

LD061145 Tunis L'ACTION in French 25 Dec 80 p 6

[Unattributed report: "Maati Bouabid: We Are Determined To Make Tunisian-Moroccan Cooperation an Exemplary Cooperation"]

[Text] In the toast which he proposed on Tuesday evening [23 December] as the dinner given in his honor by [Tunisian Prime Minister] Mohamed Mzali, Moroccan Prime Minister Maati Bouabid stated in particular:

"I am happy to convey to you the good wishes of the Moroccan people and of their leader His Majesty King Hassan II.

"I am particularly honored to express the feelings of fraternity, esteem and respect which his majesty has toward the supreme combatant President Habib Bourguiba--feelings whose intensity stems from our common history.

"Our constant meetings and dialogue tend to link the present to the past, making the element of continuity in our solidarity and complementarity the means of consolidating our understanding and a symbol of the pursuit of our common battle for our two peoples' development and prosperity and our countries' freedom and independency."

The Moroccan prime minister continued: "Our militant action has taken parallel paths and has successfully passed through stages constituting, once victory has been achieved, a common heritage which imposes fidelity and devotion on us and on future generations.

"Attachment to the principles of this fidelity to our two countries and this devotion to our two peoples incite us to work tirelessly to create the most propitious climate for the emergence of the new Maghreb citizen capable of meeting the challenges of the moment and facing the demands of development.

"Cooperation and solidarity between our two countries arose spontaneously during our common struggle and have survived trials and overcome diffficulties. Since the early days of independence their foundations have constantly required consolidation--a duty which we have accomplished with the best will and the most sincere intention, notably by concluding agreements institutionalizing our relations in the most diverse spheres for the benefit of our two countries.

"The dark days the world is now passing through owing to the hold of materialist interests to the detriment of moral principles and values urge us to join forces more than ever before, to unify our positions and show solidarity with each other with a view to facing the challenges and the instability shaking the various parts of the world which directly concerns us as Arabs, Muslims and Africans.

"In Africa we are witnessing, in virtual impotence the implementation of a strategy behind which lie harmful foreign designs and which tends to destroy stability, undermine African unity and destroy all efforts likely to promote fruitful cooperation and active solidarity among the peoples of the continent aspiring to occupy their rightful position from which to defend their interests, make their voices heard and effectively contribute to international decisions.

"What better example to illustrate this leaning toward oppression and lawlessness than the attack perpetrated against the peaceful city of Qafsah and the events Chad is now experiencing.

"What might happen if we did not arm ourselves with vigilance and make serious preparations to thwart the trouble-makers?

"It is our duty to accept our responsibilities fully and without delay.

"The troubles which the Islamic world is now experiencing and the trials it is enduring," Mr Bouabid continued, "urge vigilance, careful consideration and coordinated long-term action with a view to preserving Muslim blood in Iraq and Iran, achieving recognition of Iraq's legitimate national rights, ensuring that occupied Afghanistan regains its freedom, unity and sovereignty and ensuring that Jerusalem regains its original status, preserves its identity and assumes its historic vocation as a city of peace, harmony and coexistence among the different religions.

"Just as the Jerusalem problem is the cause of every Muslim, so it is a fundamental element of the Arab cause."

"In this connection I can only express the apprehensions we feel in the face of the dangers of division and dispersion which lie in wait for our Arab nation and which, in the final analysis, only benefit our common enemy and make our battle for the liberation of the occupied Arab territories and the recognition of the valiant Palestinian people's legitimate rights more difficult."

Maati Bouabid stressed that Morocco has never shirked its responsibilities in the Arab sphere and that it remains faithful to its principles and its pledges.

He added that the Sahara problem is first and foremost a Moroccan-Algerian conflict in both form and content. "Despite displays of obstinacy, embraces and internationalization," he said, "we have great hopes of seeing wisdom and realism finally triumph and of seeing our Algerian brothers soon shaking the hand of fraternity, tolerance and concord which we are sincerely and courageously offering them to end this conflict on the basis of respect for our territorial unity and our national sovereignty."

After recalling the visit which Mohamed Mzali made to Morocco last June, Maati Bouabid expressed the Moroccan Goverment's sincere desire to strengthen ties between the two countries and to promote new horizons for their bilateral cooperation.

"During this visit," he said, "we have defined the realistic principles on which we have based our cooperation and have defined its short-, medium- and long-term legal framework and means."

He added that the talks which the two sides had and will have during his visit to Tunisia will make it possible to draft implementation programs and set up a number of joint projects which will put into practice the unshakeable determination of our supreme leaders and our two fraternal peoples; sincere aspiration to make Moroccan-Tunisian cooperation exemplary cooperation.

Maati Bouabid continued: We are anxious to coordinate our economic policies in the international sphere in order to adopt the same stances and follow the same approach toward the EEC and with regard to North-South dialogue in order to defend our common interests and make our contribution to the establishment of a new and more just world economic order."

Maati Bouabid added that Morocco is following with great interest the efforts which Tunisia is making to ensure its development. "Your efforts in this respect are particularly remarkable since they do not rest solely on financial and material resources but also and above all on the true capital of all development: the human being," Mr Bouabid said on this subject, stressing that we share with Morocco this view that man is the real asset.

After highlighting the failure of the various ideologies to ensure mankind's happiness, Maati Bouabid noted that we should learn from this and seek salvation through a return to our origins, drawing the foundations of the healthy society which is the object of our guest from the principles of our religion, the values of our civilization and the authenticity of our own spirit.

WESTERN SAHARA

DELEGATION TO DISCUSS RECOGNITION WITH VENEZUELA

LD061502 Tripoli JANA in English 1411 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] Caracas, 6 Jan (JANA)--(?A) diplomatic source in Caracas said the Sahari delegation expected to arrive in Caracas next Friday will conduct talks on Venezuela's possible recognition of the Democratic Saharan Arab Republic. The delegation is to meet President Luis Herrera of Venezuela and her foreign minister. It is worth noting that several Latin American and Caribbean countries have recognised the Saharan Republic. These are Panama, Grenada, [name indistinct], Saint Lucia, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Mexico, Cuba and Costa Rica.

BEGIN COMMENTS ON SOVIET ADVISERS, AUTONOMY, EC

TA062020 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] Prime Minister Begin says that Soviet advisers accompanied the Syrian divisions which massed on the Syrian-Jordanian border in November and December. Begin was speaking to a delegation of British conservative friends of Israel.

The prime minister rejected statements by Egypt's foreign minister, Kamal Hasan 'Ali, that Israel was responsible for the lack of progress in the autonomy talks. Begin appealed to his audience to oppose the Venice declaration of the European Community which, he said, only hindered the peace process.

The delegation delivered what was described as a warm personal message from British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who said that the security and integrity of Israel were of vital importance to Britain.

POLL SHOWS MAJORITY WANTS NEW GOVERNMENT NOW

TA060913 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 6 Jan 81 p 3

[Text] The majority of the Israeli public wants the Likud government to be replaced now, but it does not believe that a government headed by the Alignment would have been more successful in coping with the economic situation. This is the conclusion drawn by a nationwide Pori Institute public opinion poll conducted at the request of HA'ARETZ.

When asked, "Do you want the government to remain in power until the end of its term or do you want it to be replaced now?" 50.5 percent said the government should be replaced now, in comparison with 40.5 percent who want the government to remain in power until the end of its term.

However, when asked, "Do you think that a government headed by the Alignment would have been more successful in coping with the country's economic situation?" 39.7 percent replied "no" in comparison with 34.9 percent who answered "yes." There were 18.8 percent who said they "did not know" whether an Alignment government would have been more successful than the Likud government.

The poll covered a representative sample of 1,200 men and women.

IDF REPORTS DROP IN 1980 SECURITY INCIDENTS

TA010927 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 1 Jan 81 p 2

[Text] There was an 8 percent drop in the number of security incidents in Israel and abroad compared to the year before. There was also a 55 percent drop in the number of Israeli casualties. Last year 9 soldiers and 19 civilians were killed and 58 soldiers and 77 civilians were hurt.

The annual report published by the IDF spokesman states that there were 262 security incidents in 1980 along the borders, in the territories and within the green line as well as abroad. In addition to the Israelis hurt in the course of those incidents, 20 Judaea, Samaria and Gaza residents were also killed and 53 injured. During that period, 155 terrorists were killed in Israeli operations and an additional 100 were injured, all of them Lebanese terrorists. Three more terrorists were killed in the Negev's 'Arava region.

A substantial decrease of terrorist activity was marked along the Lebanese border, representing only 7.7 percent of the overall number of terrorist acts. It should be noted that since the Misgav 'Am massacre on 7 April 1980 the IDF has succeeded in foiling all the terrorists' infiltration attempts through Lebanese territory or by sea.

At the same time, there was a 103 percent increase in the number of security incidents in the Gaza Strip as compared with last year. A 73 percent increased was marked in Judaea and Samaria. These figures are contrasted with the general decline of a number of security incidents registered in other regions of the country. The terrorists carried out 13 acts abroad, and this is similar to the number of incidents they perpetrated last year.

STATISTICS BUREAU REPORTS 'GLOOMY FACTS' OF 1980

TA010837 Jerusalem POST in English 1 Jan 81 pp 1, 2

[By economic correspondent Shlomo Ma'oz]

[Text] The standard of living dropped considerably, unemployment grew, there were fewer investments and the gross national product remained nearly frozen after years of growth. These were a few of the gloomy facts compiled by the Central Bureau of Statistics to sum up the country's economic life in 1980.

Bureau officials said at a press conference in Jerusalem yesterday that income after tax dropped by 9 percent in real money terms last year, as wage earners lost nearly a tenth of their take-home pay, private consumption per capita dropped by 7 percent--the largest decrease in at least 20 years. Unemployment grew by 67 percent to to 4.7 percent of the work force.

The bureau's statistics for 1980 are not complete since final figures for the last month of the year have not yet been compiled. The picture of the year was based on extrapolation of known trends in the last months of the year.

The gross national product grew by only 2.9 percent--the lowest rise in six years. Industrial production slumped by 4.5 percent and investments declined by 15 percent after a rise of 8 percent in 1979. Overall construction was frozen, though building for housing grew by 9 percent.

Exports of goods and services rose by 4 percent last year--the same as the previous year. Exports of goods, excluding services, grew up 9 percent.

One thing that did rise dramatically last year was prices. The average price of goods and services increased by 130 percent in 1980 after a rise of 77 percent in 1979 and smaller rises the years before.

This kind of inflation combined with lower wages and more unemployment changed the pattern of private consumption. Purchases of durable goods such as furniture, home accessories and cars declined by a hefty 21 percent. Sales of cars dropped by 57 percent after a steady increase of about 30 percent in each of the preceeding few years. The only home accessory that sold well last year was colour television sets--50 percent.

People also bought less food last year--by 8.9 percent. The Central Bureau of Statistics' figures show a 15 percent drop in consumption of milk and milk products; 10 percent in meat; 20 percent in fish; 8 percent in fruit and 20 percent in soft drinks.

The bureau's statisticians found that consumption recovered slightly in the second and third quarters of 1980 after a drop in the beginning of the year but slumped again in the last 3 months of the year.

Imports decreased by 6 percent. They would have dropped by 9 percent had imports of the defense establishment--which rose by 19 percent last year--been deleted from the calculation. Defense imports grew in 1980 after a 31 percent drop in 1979. The stocks held by Israeli industrialists and merchants--excluding diamond dealers and processors--also dropped last year.

The deficit in the country's current account grew by $250 million to $4.08 billion. The deficit would have been decreased by $136 million if defense imports had not grown.

HEADS OF MILITARY COMMITTEES MEET IN CAIRO

TA060957 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 6 Jan 81 p 1

[By Ya'aqov Erez]

[Text] Yesterday the heads of the Israeli and Egyptian military committees met in Cairo to discuss a series of infringements by both sides of the Sinai agreement. Brig Gen Dov Si'on was in Cairo yesterday and met with his counterpart, the chairman of the Egyptian committee, Adm Muhsin Hamdi.

Si'on pointed out several incidents in which Egyptian aircraft had penetrated beyond the Sinai border line. This mainly concerned Egyptian helicopters and the penetration of an Egyptian fighter plane about 2 weeks ago into an area where the Egyptians are forbidden to fly fighter planes. It turned out that the Egyptian plane had penetrated into Sinai in error, not on a reconnasissance mission.

During the meetings the Egyptians also put forward complaints about Israeli aircraft that had penetrated into Sinai. Routine matters connected with the areas of supervision in Sinai were also discussed.

DIPLOMATS CRITICIZE 'PRO-PALESTINIAN' ARTICLES

TA021118 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 2 Jan 81 p 2

[By Washington correspondent Refa'el Mann]

[Excerpt] A series of articles on the situation in the West Bank published in the Washington POST is now being used as a part of a pro-Palestinian publicity campaign run by a local organization in the United States.

Israeli diplomats claim that the fact that a pro-Palestinian organization opted to make use of the series of articles proves just how distorted and one-sided is the coverage the Washington POST is giving the West Bank.

The Institute for Peace in the Middle East published the series of articles about the West Bank in a booklet distributed in the U.S. capital to statesmen, administration officials and journalists. The booklet is entitled "The West Bank--A Prisoner of History."

CORRESPONDENT REPORTS ON SARKIS, PLO ACTIVITIES

TA062015 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis has begun quiet contacts in an effort to obtain a PLO promise to stop its attempts to penetrate into Israel from Lebanese territory. Our correspondent for Arab affairs, Ehud Ya'ari, reported that Sarkis has also asked for the aid of Western countries and especially the United States in moving Syria and Israel to adopt a policy of military restraint.

Our correspondent further reported that interrogation of terrorists captured by Israel has revealed that the PLO has begun enlisting Egyptian citizens into its ranks. The enlisting of the Egyptians is apparently conducted in coordination with the exile organizations opposed to President as-Sadat. Some of the Egyptian citizens enlisted by the terrorists are training with the terrorist units in the Tyre region.

SOMALIA

ETHIOPIAN AIR RAID KILLS NINE, INJURES OTHERS

LD061132 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 6 Jan 81 EA

[Text] Three Ethiopian military aircraft raided Bohodle location and Wirir area in Tug Der region in the Somali Democratic Republic at 1700 yesterday, killing 9 people and injuring 31. This has been reported by the SOMALI NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY from Tug Der region.

SALF LEADERS AFFIRM INTENTIONS TO CONTINUE STRUGGLE

LD061716 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somali and Abo Liberation Fronts in Somali to Western Somalia 0930 GMT 6 Jan 81 EA

[Text] Mr Wako Guto Uso, the secretary general of the Somali Abo Liberation Front [SALF], has declared that the SALF will continue the struggle for their right to self-determination. In a ceremony held at Al-Uruba Hotel to mark the end of the year and during which the activities of SALF in the past year were reviewed, the secretary general said the aim of the SALF was to attain complete freedom and the right to self-determination. The plundering and killing of Somali Abo people by the Abyssinian black colonialists had forced many people to flee their homes and to seek refuge in the Somali Democratic Republic, said Mr Wako. He went on to call upon the progressive peoples of the world who valued freedom and peace to assist oppressed peoples fighting for their right to self-determination. In conclusion, Mr Wako wished the gallant freedom fighters in the frontline success, progress and victory.

The chairman of the Defense Bureau of the SALF, Mr (Siraji Haji), who also spoke on the occasion, reviewed the victories scored by the SALF freedom fighters against the Abyssinian colonialists during 1981. [as heard] He revealed that during the year, 6,861 enemy soldiers had been killed and many more wounded. He went on to say that the freedom fighters had also captured 1,691 assorted guns, large quantities of foodstuffs and medicines, as well as destroying 73 transport vehicles during the fighting in Bale, Sidamo and Arsi. In conclusion Mr (Siraji) wished the SALF freedom fighters in the frontline success in the new year.

The chairman of the SALF political and foreign relations, Mr (Yusuf Hasan Gababa), spoke at the ceremony on the general political progress of the SALF. The ceremony was attended by foreign envoys in Somalia and many other leading personalities.

FRONTS REPORT ETHIOPIAN LOSSES IN 'FIERCE BATTLE'

LD061216 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somali and Abo Liberation Fronts in Somali to Western Somalia 0930 GMT 6 Jan 81 EA

[Text] Fighty-five Abyssinian black colonialist soldiers were killed and 120 others were wounded during a fierce battle between gallant Somali Abo freedom fighters and the enemy at Barado in Dalle District, Sidamo Region. The freedom fighters also captured 60 rifles and a pistol. They lost two martyrs and seven others were wounded.

The Somali Abo freedom fighters have intensified their struggle against the Abyssinian colonialist soldiers.

UGANDA

OBOTE APPEALS FOR POLITICAL RECONCILIATION

LD071208 Kampala Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 7 Jan 81 EA

[Text] President Obote has called on the supporters of the political parties defeated in the recent general elections to join hands with the government to reconstruct and rehabilitate Uganda. Dr Obote, who was addressing his first rally in Tororo since he assumed office last month, told the supporters of CP [Conservative Party], DP [Democratic Party] and UPM [Uganda Patriotic Movement] that although his government [as heard--presumably party], the UPC [Uganda People's Congress] won, it belongs to all Ugandans. The president outlined the broad policies which will be pursued as a matter of priority. This includes the restoration of human dignity of Ugandans. He also promised that the government will work tirelessly to ensure security in the country. Dr Obote pledged the government's commitment to increase production. In this connection, he said, we call on all Ugandans with energy, ability and finance to participate in the rehabilitation program and give them every possible assistance where possible.

On the recent government measures on fuel, the president said that the measures were introduced to eradicate fuel smuggling and hoarding. Dr Obote appealed to all Ugandans to work hard so as to speed up the rebuilding of the nation.

The president explained that the government structure today is geared at achieving those priorities. In this connection the president disclosed that the vice president has been charged with the coordination of all matters pertaining to security, although there is a Ministry of Internal Affairs. The Ministry of Public Service and Cabinet Affairs and that of local government have been charged with the cleaning up of the public service. However, the prime minister will supervise administration, particularly the activities of the two ministries. In the office of the prime minister, the minister, the minister of state, Mr Rurangaranga, will deal with matters pertaining to chiefs and other public officers and the minister without portfolio, Mr (Osinde Wangor) will ensure that MPs attend parliament sessions and serve the people who elected them.

Commenting on his discussion with President Moi of Kenya on Monday, the president said the talks had been fruitful. Let those who try to separate us, he declared, know from today that we are sisters with Kenya. Dr Oboto reiterated that the policy of his government with neigboring countries is of cooperation and friendship.

The president promised that all Ugandans now in jail, whether civilians or soldiers, because of working or cooperating with Amin, would soon be released if they are found to be innocent. He said he is handling the matter and the public will soon be informed of the result. But he firmly declared that although his government will be humane, it will not compromise on the interests of Ugandans.

Addressing the same rally, the vice president andminister of defense, Mr Paulo Muwanga, told the people that Dr Obote's contribution to the liberation and recent general election is a clear indication that he is dedicated to the cause of progress in Uganda. Mr Muwanga also reminded the people that the task ahead of them is a challenging one.

The minister of public service and cabinet affairs, Mr Wilson Okwenje, on behalf of the people of Tororo, presented a memorandum to the president and thanked him for what he has done for his country and his people. Mr Okwenje also thanked the vice president for the way he conducted the elections which brought UPC to power.

The president was presented with three bulls, one cow and one spear and the vice president was given two head of cattle. The rally was attended by ministers, four deputy ministers and the chief of staff, Brig Oyite Ojok.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

DACKO SIGNS DECREE ON PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION RULES

AB061520 Paris AFP in French 1107 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] Bangui, 6 Jan (AFP)--A presidential election by direct universal suffrage in the CAR, scheduled for next March, will be held in two rounds, according to the text of an ordinance signed on Monday in Bangui by President David Dacko. This ordinance specifies that in the second round, the candidate who obtains a simple majority will win the election.

To be eligible, a candidate should not be less than 35 years old. The candidate can be either an independent or be nominated by a party or a legally recognized political group.

Each candidate should deposit, within 2 days after registering as a candidate, a total of 5 million CFA francs (FR 100,000). This election deposit will be refunded if the candidate obtains more than 10 percent of the votes cast. Any person convicted of a criminal offense is ineligible to run.

Finally, the ordinance specifies that the president's functions are incompatible with parliamentary activities, any other public office and any other activity for money, except agricultural and pastoral activities.

ZAIRE

DEMONSTRATORS RAVAGE KASAI GOVERNOR'S HOUSE

AB070952 Paris AFP in English 0942 GMT 7 Jan 81

[Text] Brussels, 7 Jan (AFP)--Demonstrators sacked the house of the governor of Zaire's Kasai Province following the arrest of 13 national assembly members, including five from Kasai, at the end of December, the Belgian daily LIBRE BELGIQUE reported today.

The newspaper said that the arrests, on charges of subversive activities, inciting revolt and insulting head of state Mobutu Sese Seko, had created considerable tension in Mbuji Mai, Kasai's diamond city, and the demonstrators had also damaged a house belonging to the president.

The 13 assembly members had signed a 51-page document attacking Mr Mobutu. Four of the detained men are to be tried by a special state security court, while the others will be tried in ordinary courts.

NIGERIA

DAILY WARNS OF AL-QADHDHAFI AMBITIONS IN AFRICA

AB070930 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 7 Jan 81

[Press review]

[Excerpt] The DAILY SKETCH expresses serious concern about the growing evidence of ambition by Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi of Libya to acquire and then expand areas of influence. The paper notes that quite reasonably, he has turned to Africa [words indistinct]. Today, he is firmly entrenched in Chad. He was visibly present in Uganda during the rule of President Idi Amin. Drunk with his success in Chad, Al-Qadhdhafi's next target was Nigeria. His first major step was the undiplomatic act of turning the Libyan Embassy in Lagos into a people's bureau. The SKETCH expresses great happiness with the federal government's prompt action in expelling the members of Al-Qadhdhafi's revolutionary organization from Nigeria. With this record of subversion, the OAU and the Organization of Arab States must call Colonel al-Qadhdhafi to order.

SENEGAL

PDS CALLS DIOUF SUCCESSION 'CONSTITUTIONAL COUP'

AB070712 Paris AFP in English 0437 GMT 7 Jan 81

[Text] Dakar, 7 Jan (AFP)--The Senegalese Democratic Opposition Party (PDS) complained yesterday that the December 31 resignation of President Leopold Sedar Senghor and his replacement by Premier Abdou Diouf the next day was a constitutional coup d'etat.

The opposition party convention adopted a resolution contending that Article 35 of the constitutional providing for automatic replacement of a president by the premier was unfair. The resolution demanded a constitutional referendum, and election of a new president.

The convention also called for radicalization of the Democratic Party (which has liberal leanings). But this radicalization did not mean the party's 16 members of parliament ment would resign as had been contemplated, the delegates decided. The PDS is the only opposition party represented in the 100-seat parliament.

The delegates called for a stepped up struggle to permit all political parties and for preparations for a possible confrontation with the ruling Socialist Party if it sticks to its attitude. The convention urged that the courts, the army and the gendarmes should help keep watch on registration of voters and guard against election fraud.

UPPER VOLTA

FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES NEW GOVERNMENT'S POLICY

AB062004 Paris AFP in French 1115 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] Ouagadougou, 6 Jan (AFP)--The foreign policy of the new Upper Volta Government set up after the 25 November 1980 coup will scrupulously follow the policy of non-alignment and will be stamped with the unflinching determination to avoid any foreign influence, Lt Col Felix Tiemtarboum, Upper Voltan minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, declared Tuesday when addressing ministry employees who came to present their New Year wishes. Lieutenant Colonel Tiemtarboum added that Upper Volta must place its foreign policy at the service of development.

He said that Upper Volta must not be afraid of its stand on certain African and [words indistinct] problems, by avoiding simply following along. The need to actively seek foreign aid is no reason to give up our independence to any power, be it from the East or the West or even from our continent, added the foreign minister.

SOUTH AFRICA

BOTHA REACTS TO COMMENT ON DELEGATES' ROLE AT TALKS

LD070802 Johannesburg International Service in English 0400 GMT 7 Jan 81

[Excerpt] The South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Roelof Botha, has reacted to the statement yesterday by Mr Brian Urqhart that South African delegates in Geneva would not be regarded merely as observers by the UN during the multiparty talks on South-West Africa. In an interview with Radio RSA in Geneva, Mr Botha said the South African Government was not participating, and would not participate in the conference. He said the role of the South-West African administrator general was concentrated on coordinating the various South-West African parties, and the parties would participate in the conference on an equal level with SWAPO.

Mr Botha said that if the UN secretary general, Dr Waldheim, was not prepared to participate on this basis, the South African officials now in Geneva would have to be withdrawn. South Africa's role as coordinator was an understanding that had been reached with the UN, and if this appeared not to be the case, then he would withdraw the South African officials immediately.

The South-West African administrator general, Mr Hough, in a subsequent statement, said he would act only in a coordinating capacity, and as an umbrella during the conference, and that the internal parties should participate on an equal footing with SWAPO. He said that during discussion with Dr Waldheim and Mr Urqhart on Tuesday they had referred to the status of the internal parties repeatedly, and no objections had been raised. He was therefore in complete agreement with the views expressed by Mr Roelof Botha.

SECURITY FORCES KILL 81 SWAPO TERRORISTS

LD061558 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 6 Jan 81

[Text] Security forces in South-West Africa have killed 81 terrorists in the past 6 days in operations against bases that have been located. The chief of staff of the South-West African territory force, Brig (Jan Klopper), has said in Windhoek that the joint forces of South-West Africa and South Africa have also seized large quantities of arms and vehicles used by the terrorists. The statement did not say where the bases that had been destroyed were situated. Brigader (Klopper) said that, judging by SWAPO's normal pattern of action, acts of terror could be expected to continue while the all-party conference in Geneva was in progress.

FATE OF POLITICAL PRISONER REVEALED 7 JAN

AB071154 Paris AFP in English 1110 GMT 7 Jan 81

[Text] Johannesburg, 7 Jan (AFP)--One of four political prisoners whose release by South Africa has been demanded by the South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) at the Geneva conference on Namibia was freed in 1972 and has since died, the pro-government DAILY BEELD reported today. The newspaper, quoting confidential sources, said that Rendon Simbaye, the first president of the Caprivi African National Union (CANU) had been murdered in the east of the Caprivi strip near Katima Mulilo soon after his release and was buried there.

The three other prisoners, Toivo Ya Toivo, Lazarus Guiteb and Jerry Ekandjo are being held at the Robben island prison off Cape Town.

SWAPO demanded the men be released after including their names in the list of SWAPO delegates attending the U.N.-sponsored [conference] on Namibia which opened in Geneva earlier today.